

Politicians urge Egypt to quit ACC

ISMAELIA, Egypt (R) — Members of Egypt's ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) called Saturday for their country to leave an 18-month-old regional alliance with Iraq because of the Iraqi take-over of Kuwait. NDP members meeting in this Suez Canal city sent a cable to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak urging him to call for an emergency meeting of the heads of state of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) in Cairo in the next few days to discuss Iraq's "expulsion" from the group. The other members of the ACC are Jordan and Yemen, which declined to endorse an Arab summit resolution last week condemning Iraq and agreeing to the dispatch of Arab military forces to Saudi Arabia. The cable asked Mubarak to pull out of the alliance, formed in February last year as an economic and political group, if Jordan and Yemen failed to back Iraq's expulsion. Egypt called Saturday for an emergency meeting of Arab foreign ministers in Cairo Aug. 26 to discuss compliance with the Arab summit resolution.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرأى

U.S. navy fires shots at tankers

NICOSIA (R) — Iraq and U.S. warships in the Gulf area fired warning shots at two of its tankers Saturday but the crews ignored the shells and fired warning shots at one Iraqi tanker in the Gulf of Oman. Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi told the official news agency INA that U.S. ships "harassed" the 35,338-tonne Khanaqin in the Gulf of Oman and the 36,397-tonne Baba Gurgur in the Gulf "in a provocative manner." The Iraqi vessels ignored attempts to stop them, "refusing to permit American forces to board them for inspection. American gunboats fired several shots which fell in front of, behind and near the tankers in a desperate attempt to force them to stop and change course." "But the two tankers continued on their set course, claiming prerogatives granted by no one," he said. Hours earlier the Iraqi government described the blockade imposed on it by the U.S. and British navies as an act of war. U.S. warships stopped two Iraqi coastal vessels in the Gulf Friday but allowed them to continue because they carried no cargo.

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Imams call for jihad against U.S.

NOUAKCHOTT, Mauritania (AP) — Hardline Islamic leaders urged their followers to wage a holy war against the United States for sending troops to Saudi Arabia. Religious leaders of this country issued a joint statement after Friday prayers instructing Muslims to organize to attack Americans wherever they are found. The imams criticised Saudi Arabia for requesting American protection as "inviting apostates to occupy the holy places." Mauritania officials have stepped up security measures to protect Western embassies in response to public sentiment against U.S.-led intervention in the region, officials said. Mauritania officials have reported hundreds of people volunteering to fight alongside Iraqi troops.

Palestinian shot dead in Tunisia

TUNIS (AP) — Police rounded up Palestinians Saturday after a shooting between rival factions of a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) group left one man dead and another wounded. Tunisian sources said the shooting on Friday night stemmed from a split in the ranks of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP). One faction backs DFLP Secretary General Nayef Hawatmeh, the sources said. The other leans towards Yasser Arafat, the group's number-two leader. Arafat is close to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. The identities of the dead and wounded men were not revealed. Police did not say which faction they belonged to or how many people had been attacked.

Iran reports quake in north

NICOSIA (R) — An earthquake measuring 5.4 on the open-ended Richter Scale shook northeastern Iran Saturday, the official Iranian news agency IRNA reported. The agency, monitored in Nicosia, made no mention of casualties or damage in the tremor near the town of Gorgan in Mazandaran province which it said struck at 1.22 p.m. (0952 GMT). Some 40,000 people were killed and nearly 100,000 buildings destroyed in northwest Iran in an earthquake June 21 which measured 7.3 on the Richter Scale.

Kuwait says all fighters in S. Arabia

ABU DHABI (R) — All Kuwait's air force fighter planes are in Saudi Arabia and none fell into Iraqi hands during the takeover, Kuwait's foreign minister said Saturday. "All Kuwaiti fighters are safe and are now based in Saudi Arabia," Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber said, quoted by the KUNA news agency run by his ousted government. The report was sent to Reuters from the KUNA office in Paris. Kuwait has 36 combat fighters, according to the London-based international institute of strategic studies. It had not been clear whether Kuwaiti planes had been able to escape the invasion, although some were reported in action against Iraqi forces from bases in Bahrain and Saudi Arabia. Kuwait's air force also had 18 attack helicopters which are assumed to have been captured or destroyed.

Gulf defence chiefs to discuss strategy

BAHRAIN (R) — Defence ministers of the six-state Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), including Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, will meet this week to forge a joint strategy on Iraq's takeover of Kuwait, a Gulf official said Saturday. "After this meeting, there will be a clear indication of the line of action envisaged by the Gulf states — all are determined to make available their resources to defend themselves collectively if the need arises," the official said. He said the ministers of the GCC grouping Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) would meet in Riyadh. The defence and economic alliance — which has a joint army based in Haifa, Al Baten in northeast Saudi Arabia — was formed in 1981 after the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war.

Iraq to 'host' foreigners until threats are over

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq pushed for relief from a total economic blockade that it called an act of war Saturday by announcing that thousands of foreigners prevented from leaving the country will starve along with its own nationals. In a separate development, Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Chalabi said that American warships had fired on two Iraqi oil tankers: One named Baba Karkar in the Gulf and another called Khanaqin just outside in the Gulf of Oman. Chalabi said the shots followed the crews' refusal to allow the ships to be searched, according to a statement carried by the Iraqi News Agency (INA).

The shots fell in front and behind the ships and they proceeded without stopping, he said. Chalabi did not say what kind of shots were fired but warned that any similar act will have "grave consequences." Earlier Baghdad threatened to use weapons of "mass destruction" against attackers. The threat of starving foreigners along with Iraqis came in a statement from the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, also carried by INA. It singled out the United States for the blame for blocking food supplies, accusing the U.S. of

going beyond the mandatory United Nations sanctions in denying Iraq food and medicine. The United States "proceeded with applying an economic siege by military force against Iraq... and such an act by international law is known as an act of war," said INA, monitored here. It also said that the blockade would deny children their milk, medication and other necessities. "Because the children of the world are beloved of God and of Saddam Hussein and in compliance with our humanitarian principles... we have decided to place the children of foreign families which Iraq has decided to host in equality with the children of Iraq and... what affects the children of Iraq will equally affect them," said the statement.

It also said adult Westerners will also be affected. "Due to the circumstances of the boycott and economic siege which have been imposed by the United States by military means food will not be available for all adults in the amounts we would wish," the statement said. The ministry noted that Europeans, especially Britons, will understand the measures due to their previous experiences. It said the food supplies in Iraq would be distributed to the military and in Iraq's extensive military industries on a priority basis because they are "the shield of the nation." The solution to the problem was to end the blockade, said the statement.

It noted that "the presence of Westerners in Iraq is probably one of the means which will achieve peace and prevent aggression and war and make the American president and his allies reconsider their aggressive policies." The announcement came after Iraq's parliament speaker said late Friday that Iraq would "host" all foreigners from nations taking what he called an aggressive stance against Iraq. It said they would be released only when the threat of war was lifted.

There are two million foreigners in Iraq and Kuwait. The foreigners include 20,000 Westerners, with about 4,500 Britons and 3,000 Americans the largest groups. The Iraqi government later clarified the statement to say that the restrictions on leaving the country did not apply to Egyptians. More than 1.6 million Egyptians make up the bulk of guest workers in Iraq and Kuwait. CBS television news reported Saturday that it had been told by Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz that Baghdad would not use chemical weapons against the United States unless Washington used nuclear weapons first. CBS said Aziz made the comment during a 90-minute interview with Dan Rather in Baghdad Saturday. Sections of the interview screened with the report, however, did not contain this specific comment by Aziz. Amid a build-up of U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia, Baghdad warned Fri-

day that if it was attacked it would hit back with weapons of "mass destruction and strategic deterrence." Rather said it was clear from his interview with Aziz that the thousands of American and British nationals in Iraq and Kuwait would be used as "a human shield" against a potential attack on Iraq. Responding to questions concerning Iraq's decision to place foreigners at key military and industrial sites in Iraq, Aziz referred to the move as "a precautionary measure."

"The decision was made by our general assembly, and the speaker of the assembly made the statement last night, explaining that... he thinks, and members of the general assembly, think that if a number of foreigners would live with the Iraqis in some places who are the target of a probable American aggression, that might deter the American government from committing the crime that the Iraqi people would like to avoid," he said. United Nations General Secretary Javier Perez de Cuellar said Saturday he had ordered two U.N. officials to Baghdad to seek a solution regarding foreign nationals barred from leaving Iraq and Kuwait. "I have decided to send two high U.N. officials to Baghdad... to make contact with the appropriate authorities and study the best way to find a solution to the foreigners' situation," Perez de Cuellar told reporters. President George Bush is "deeply concerned" by Iraq's stated intention

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Iraq continues Iran pullout, moves troops into Kuwait

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraqi soldiers withdrew from more Iranian territory Saturday ready to head south to bolster Baghdad's army against U.S. and foreign troops in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf. Iran freed about 1,000 Iraqi prisoners-of-war (POWs) on Saturday while Iraq moved a further 1,000 Iranian POWs to the border for repatriation. On Friday Iraq began pulling soldiers out of Iran and freed 1,000 Iranian POWs. The pullout and prisoner swap were both pledged by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein earlier this week, saying the troops withdrawal would free soldiers to counter the forces deployed in Saudi Arabia. Iraq has an estimated 150,000

soldiers in Kuwait following its takeover on August 2. The national Iranian news agency IRNA said Iraqis had pulled out of the long-held border areas in the western provinces of Ilam and Bakhtaran. The areas include NAFT-e-Shahr, site of a major oil field straddling the border. "According to military sources, in other western border regions the Iraqi forces are busy making preparations for a complete pull-out," IRNA said. Iraqi forces raised white flags of truce as they dismantled frontline fortifications, the agency said. Baghdad says the withdrawal will free 30 army divisions — around 300,000 men — to confront foreign forces sent to Saudi Arabia.

Arabia. In a dramatic announcement last Wednesday, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said he accepted Iran's conditions for a formal end to the Gulf war. The Iraqi army daily, Al Qadisiyah, declared in an editorial that the 30 divisions which have been facing Iran would now be used to bolster Iraqi formations in the south. The editorial was the first official Iraqi word that Baghdad will deploy forces, freed from the Iranian border by the initiative, in Kuwait. The daily stressed that the forces "which are leaving Iran's borders... and the high readiness of our air force will be an additional might to what he had

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Egypt calls Arab ministerial council to meet next week

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egypt asked Arab foreign ministers Saturday to gather in Cairo next week for a meeting apparently designed to increase pressure on Iraq to withdraw its forces from Kuwait. Hassan Al Abbadi, Egypt's assistant foreign minister, told reporters the ministerial-level meeting of the Arab League Council was proposed for a week from Sunday, Aug. 26. Ostensibly, it was to hear from Chadli Klibi, the league's secretary-general, a report on whether an Aug. 10 resolution adopted by an Arab summit in Cairo is being implemented. But Arab diplomatic sources said the real aim appears to be to embarrass Iraq and increase Arab pressure on Baghdad to withdraw from Kuwait. The resolution sanctioned the

dispatch of Arab forces to Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries, at their request, to help "defend" against possible Iraqi attack. It demanded immediate withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and reinstatement of the Kuwaiti government the Iraqis ousted. President Hosni Mubarak organised the summit under the official umbrella of the 21-member Arab League. The resolution, passed by a majority of 12 with nine members voting against or abstaining or expressing reservations, also denounced Iraq's massing of troops along the border with Saudi Arabia. It indirectly supported Saudi Arabia's request for American military assistance. The resolution instructed the league's Klibi to follow its implementation and report "within 15 days" to the organisation's council. That is the meeting Egypt is requesting.

Except for dispatch of Arab troops to Saudi Arabia, nothing has been done to carry out the resolution's dictates. The Iraqis remain in Kuwait, consider it a southern region of their country and say its merger with Iraq is irrevocable. Egypt called for the extraordinary ministers' meeting in its capacity as the summit chairman. The next routine Arab League foreign ministers' meeting had been scheduled for next month. It was not clear how many Arab states would send ministers to the talks, or if they would agree to do so Aug. 26. President Hosni Mubarak said Friday time remains for a peaceful solution to the Iraq-Kuwait

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Palestinians raise Jordanian flags in pro-Iraq march

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank marched in support of Iraq over the Gulf crisis on Saturday and raised Jordanian flags for the first time in years, witnesses said. In the city of Nablus more than 1,000 demonstrators packed the narrow alleys of the ancient bazaar until troops dispersed them with teargas. Anti-American rallies were also reported in Ramallah and the village of Deir Falah, near Bethlehem.

In support of Amman's backing of Iraq, some demonstrators raised the Jordanian flag for what Palestinians said was probably the first time since Israel occupied the West Bank in the 1967 war. A poll of Arabs in the occupied territories published in a Jerusalem Palestinian newspaper Friday showed 76 per cent approved the Jordanian leadership's actions in the Gulf crisis. In the Gaza Strip Saturday, Arab protesters shouting anti-American slogans hung large Iraqi flags on the grand mosque in the town of Khan Younis. More banners went up in a nearby Palestinian refugee camp, residents said. Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories feel a sense of pride in Iraq's defiance of the United States, Israel's superpower ally and financial backer. Iraq's takeover of Kuwait they see as an Arab matter, akin to a family squabble, in which non-Arab outsiders have no business interfering. Many of Israel's 700,000 Arabs also back Iraq. Communist activists in the city of

Nazareth and surrounding Arab villages have handed out leaflets calling on people to "raise their voices against U.S. aggression." "Our hearts and bodies are with the Arab people against colonialism... Arab oil for the Arabs, not for the American invader," the leaflet added. In nearby Kufri Kanna, supporters of an Israeli Arab nationalist group, Abna Al Balad (Sons of the Village), echoed the West Bank and Gaza rallies with their own march against foreign intervention in the Gulf.

Arabs at crossroads — King

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will pursue efforts with all its power and on the Arab and international scenes to deescalate the Gulf crisis, His Majesty King Hussein said in a statement Saturday. The King made the statement to Jordanian newspaper editors and directors of information departments at a meeting held at the Royal Court during which he reviewed various aspects of the Gulf crisis and developments in the region. Describing the present stage in Arab history as the "most crucial ever," the King said, "The Arabs are at a crossroads. They can

either move forward towards attaining their objectives and lead a decent life and have a place under the sun among other nations, or God forbid, live in darkness and lose all that has been built by their fathers and ancestors." Voicing pride in the degree of awareness among Jordanians, the King said he was gratified to see citizens of other Arab states appreciating Jordan's position and joining in Jordan's efforts to serve the Arab Nation's just causes. "Whatever the pressures facing the nation from hostile powers, we are confident that the nation

will attain its objectives with God's help and through perseverance and steadfastness," the King said. King Hussein called for more vigilance and alertness, "which are essential elements to help us confront and deal with the challenges and rise to the level of responsibility and safeguard our gains and interests." The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the King's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh and Minister of Information Ibrahim Izzeddin.

King presents perceptions of Gulf crisis to Indian minister who later flies to Iraq

India shares 'deep concern' over Gulf

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday held talks with Indian Foreign Minister Inder Kumar Gujral on the Gulf crisis and the Indian minister later said that during the "extremely good and fruitful" meeting the King briefed him on the outcome of his talks last week with U.S. President George Bush. During the meeting, which was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the King also presented "his perceptions of the situation" in the Gulf in the wake of Iraq's takeover of Kuwait and "we exchanged views on the situation as we see it." Gujral told the Jordan Times. "An appreciation of the views of each other" emerged during the 45-minute audience, which was preceded by a separate one-hour meeting with the Crown Prince, Gujral told the Jordan Times. The minister was reported to have told sides in remarks after

the meeting that "I have come here after meeting politicians, but here I have found a real statesman." Gujral, who arrived here Friday and left Saturday for Baghdad for talks with the Iraqi leadership, said the main aim of his visit to the area was to ensure the "smooth passage of Indians who might want to leave Kuwait and Iraq and the safety and security of those who choose to remain." At the same time, Gujral said, he will also seek to find out how India, "which has long emotional and traditional links with the Arab World," can contribute to deescalating the tension in the region. He emphasised that he was not assuming a role of a mediator or messenger, but "our concern for the Arabs is no less than our concern for our own nationals."

Gujral, who held talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Moscow and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in Washington before arriving in Amman on a marathon shuttle, said India regretted the developments in the Gulf, particularly that the cold war has come to an end and the trend was to settle disputes through dialogue and negotiations. "It is the duty of all peace-loving countries to defuse the tension in the region, which is at (the edge of) a precipice," the minister said. "The consequences of the situation are unthinkable," added Gujral, who assumed the foreign affairs portfolio late last year after serving for many years as information minister. "I am very glad and gratified to see the Jordanian leadership exerting all efforts in the direction" of peace. In reply to a question, he said "the thinking in Moscow and Washington (over the Gulf situation) is not exactly the same." He declined to elaborate, except to say that the Soviet position is that Moscow would insist on United Nations framework for any further action in the region.

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APPEAL

MILK FOR THE CHILDREN OF IRAQ

An appeal directed to the human conscience all over the world, starting from Jordan. From the children of Jordan to fathers and mothers wherever they are.

The children of Jordan from the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) who are aware there is still a responsive human conscience appeal to all citizens in Jordan, to the local, Arab, regional and international organisations and institutions and the world child organisations and to leaders of the world's countries to end injustice against the children of Iraq who are threatened with being deprived of bread and milk.

The children of Jordan demand all to implement the principles of the international declaration on children's rights which provides for protecting and taking care of children under all circumstances, in all times and in the days of war and peace alike. The principles of the international declaration on the children's rights by which all the world abide by linking between these rights and the child's basic needs. The declaration's provisions under articles No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10 guarantee the protection and welfare of children as well as social, food, and educational security and their right to grow up in healthy conditions in the times of war, peace and disasters.

The children of Jordan appeal for providing milk and food supplies for the children of Iraq.

This appeal comes on the eve of convening the world summit for children in which many leaders of the world's countries will take part to protect childhood.

As we head our call from the General Union of Voluntary Services in Jordan we appeal to fathers and mothers to respond favourably to this call. Let us share our food together.

Cash and in-kind donations are received at the following centres:
The General Union of Voluntary Societies - Jabal Luweibdeh, Tel. 634001, 634009, 630398.

GUVS - Amman Governorate	Tel. 639555
GUVS - Irbid Governorate	(02)242518
GUVS - Zarqa Governorate	(09)981712
GUVS - Balqa Governorate	(05)555285
GUVS - Karak Governorate	(03)351169
GUVS - Ma'an Governorate	(03)32477
GUVS - Tafila Governorate	(03)342365
GUVS - Mafrq Governorate	(04)432799

Iraqi tankers quit Red Sea terminal

DUBAI (R) — Two Iraqi tankers have left waters off Iraq's oil terminal on Saudi Arabia's Red Sea coast after waiting in vain for the Saudis to allow them to load, shipping sources said Saturday.

The 89,188-tonne Al Fao, which reached the Mu'ajjiz terminal Thursday, and 115,211-tonne Al Qadisiya which arrived Monday were denied permission to berth by the Saudis, the sources at the Saudi port of Yanbu said.

They said they knew of no other Iraqi vessels in the Red Sea area trying to load at Saudi ports.

Two Iraqi vessels were waiting off Dubai but were not loading.

Saudi Arabia closed Iraq's pipelines across its territory to the Mu'ajjiz terminal after the United Nations imposed sanctions on Iraq over its Aug. 2, take-over of Kuwait.

Ankara has also closed Iraqi pipelines across Turkey to the Mediterranean while President George Bush has ordered U.S. warships in the Gulf — Iraq's only other major outlet for its crude — to enforce the U.N. embargo.

Before the invasion of Kuwait, Iraq was sending 90 per cent of its 2.7 million barrels per day in crude oil exports through the Saudi Arabian and Turkish pipelines.

U.S. warships intercepted two Iraqi coastal ships in the Gulf Friday but let them proceed because they had no cargo. Bush has ordered his navy to use minimum force if necessary.

British warships have also been questioning suspect vessels and the sources said it would be very hard for any ships carrying cargo to or from Iraq to navigate the Gulf without being spotted.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has said interception of Iraqi vessels would be regarded as an act of aggression.

Iraq's Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz was quoted by the Iraqi News Agency (INA) Saturday as saying the Arabs might in future intercept foreign ships in regional waters.

"Measures taken by the U.S. in obstructing and inspecting Iraqi ships represents a precedent that opens the door to whoever is capable of inspecting the ship of any country..." INA reported Aziz as saying.

"In the future, the Arabs will not be less capable than others," he said without elaborating.

Iraq has several small coastal patrol ships at its Umm Qasr naval base in the northern Gulf and at least three captured Kuwaiti vessels armed with Exocet missiles.

Kuwaiti ship leaves away

A Kuwaiti-flagged freighter carrying cotton left the port of Barcelona Friday for Italy after naval authorities ordered it out in compliance with the United Nations embargo on trade with Iraq and Kuwait, a navy spokesman said.

The authorities ordered the Trident Arrow to leave port late Thursday once it had reloaded 200 of the 1,000 metric tons it was attempting to off-load, the spokesman said.

The incident highlighted problems facing companies and businesses with links to Kuwait or Iraq which are under no threat of control by Baghdad.

The Trident Arrow was headed for Leghorn, Italy, according to the spokesman and the ship's Barcelona agent.

The ship is owned by United Arab Shipping Co., a consortium of six Arab states including Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Abu Dhabi, Oman and Qatar.

Iraq says it is moving Westerners to military bases

NICOSIA (R) — Iraq says it is moving Western civilians to key military bases and installations to thwart a possible attack by U.S.-led forces massing in the Gulf following Baghdad's Aug. 2 takeover of Kuwait.

Following is a Reuters translation from the original Arabic of the full text of the statement by Iraq's parliamentary speaker, Saadi Mehdi Saleh, carried by Iraqi News Agency (INA) Friday night.

Some Western governments led by the American administration, which deliberately took hostile and unjust stands against Iraq, have been raising the issue of the precautionary measures taken to keep the nationals of these countries in Iraq, and launched a campaign packed with lies.

The whole world is aware that these governments, which have massed their naval and air forces and troops in the region on an unprecedented scale and in an atmosphere of hysteria, arrogance and oppression, are gearing up to commit aggression against the proud and peaceful people of Iraq and the Arab Nation.

They are acting arrogantly in violation of all norms of international law and rules of human conduct among nations and peoples.

These governments are intent on launching a war to starve the Iraqi people in a brutal way unprecedented in history.

Foremost of sacred missions should be the protection of peoples from aggression and injustice and the assurance of peace, and any conduct that in the end promotes this noble and humane objective gains deep legitimacy, which is the substance of the divine, secular, and international laws.

Out of our faith in this sacred mission, the people of Iraq have decided to play host to the citizens of these aggressive nations as long as Iraq remains threatened with an aggressive war. This measure will remain in force until such time when sufficient guarantees are presented to the people of Iraq that the danger of oppressive aggression has been eliminated.

The peaceful people of Iraq have found that this measure will only keep the threat of war and aggression at bay and serve the cause of peace, and that all the honourable people in the world who care for the sovereignty of noble human values, and above all peace, must spare no effort, each according to his capabilities, to force the U.S. administration

and its partners in the designs and preparations for aggression to cease their oppressive policies and leave the region in peace.

Security, peace and freedom will then prevail for all, and sound, human relations among peoples will be established on the bases of justice and equality.

The National Assembly has been coordinating with a number of state ministries and installations, which have the required accommodation facilities throughout the country from Zakho to Al Nida (Al Ahmadi), including the ministry of oil, the ministry of military industrialisation, the armed forces and air bases and other ministries and institutions and the refinery complex in Kuwait and other places, so they are provided with the appropriate accommodation.

Egypt calls Arab meeting

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crisis and called an "Iraqi brothers" to avoid confrontation and bloodshed.

He said he hopes Saddam Hussein, Iraq's president, will not take so long to reach a solution in Kuwait as he did coming up with his surprise initiative for peace with Iran. Eight years of war between Iraq and Iran ended in 1988, and Saddam announced his initiative only last Wednesday.

"I made so many contacts to several mediators to find a peaceful solution (to the Kuwait problem)," Mubarak said. "I reached nothing."

"There is still time and I am calling for peace. I am calling our brothers in Iraq to respond to the voice of peace, to avoid con-

frontation and bloodshed which may take place in case of being obstinate."

Asked to comment on Iraq's decision to pull out of Iranian territory occupied during its war with Iran and to exchange prisoners, Mubarak said he could not understand the speed of Saddam's initiative.

Since Saddam's initiative is returning the situation between Iraq and Iran to what it was in 1980, before the war, "I hope with all my heart that... we don't have to wait so many years for Kuwait," he said.

Mubarak spoke with reporters after a two-hour meeting on the Gulf question with three European Community foreign ministers.

Marine refuses to go to Middle East

HONOLULU (AP) — A marine opposed to "interventionist" U.S. foreign policy sought conscientious objector status Friday and was transferred to a unit that won't be deployed to the Gulf for Operation Desert Shield, his lawyer said.

Corporal Jeffrey Paterson, stationed at Kaneohe Marine Corps air station on the island of Oahu, said he would not fight to protect oil prices and opposed "interventionist" policies in the Middle East.

Paterson, 22, of Hollister, California, is reportedly the second Kaneohe marine to seek conscientious objector status.

Eric A. Seitz, Paterson's attorney, said the soldier's application was accepted for processing Friday, but that a decision could take "some time."

Paterson, who had worked as a supply clerk and in field artillery, was transferred to a non-deployable unit, Seitz said.

However, Capt. Leonard Ryan, public affairs officer at the base, would not confirm that Paterson had changed units. Ryan said Paterson had been charged with unauthorized leave for being away from his unit Thursday, but no other charges were planned.

A Marine Corps spokeswoman in Washington said officials there were unaware of the case and would not comment.

Paterson said he had been tentatively scheduled to leave for the Middle East Sunday. Base spokesmen would not discuss planned deployments.

"I can't fight for the military at all anymore," he said. "If I was going to El Salvador, I'd do the same thing."

Paterson, who has seven months left in the Marines, said he belongs to "La Casa," a group that objects to U.S. "interventionist" policies.

There are "very few people who want to go to Saudi Arabia and fight for the price of oil," he said. "All wars are in the objectives of leaders and corporations and not the people."

Paterson said he joined the Marines in 1986 but two years later joined organisations opposed to U.S. policy in Central and South America and the Middle East.

He said he hoped the media attention about his case would make the Marines "want to get rid of me as soon as possible."

Seitz said the soldier told him Marine officials were considering charging him with a number of violations under the uniform code of military justice.

Among the possible charges were unauthorized leave, releasing classified information and inciting others to resist orders, Seitz said.

Christopher Marler, another Marine stationed at the base, filed a lawsuit Aug. 10 seeking a court order to prevent his deployment to the Middle East. Marler had filed for conscientious objector status in April, citing his protestant religious beliefs.

The government said it agreed not to send Marler into combat because his application was filed months ago. Marler was unavailable for comment Friday.

U.S.-Iraq diplomacy: No decorum in crisis

WASHINGTON (AP) — "There's been a minimum of civility, I can assure you."

One U.S. official used those words to sum up the trying times of the handful of U.S. diplomats who deal directly with Iraqi authorities these days.

Presidents George Bush of the United States and Saddam Hussein of Iraq have accused each other of lying but at least are able to exchange the insults at long distance. U.S. and Iraqi diplomats do not have that luxury.

For example, the officer in charge of the U.S. embassy in Baghdad, Joseph Wilson, or a stand-in, goes to the Iraqi Foreign Ministry several times a day on behalf of the 3,000 Americans stranded in Kuwait and Iraq. He always comes back empty-handed.

Less frequently, Iraq's ambassador to Washington, Mohammad Mas'ud Al Mashat, is summoned to the 6th floor State Department office that deals with the Gulf issue.

Mas'ud's meetings at the State Department are usually "short and heated," said another official. The Iraqi envoy was unavailable to give his account of the sessions.

As the U.S.-Iraqi military confrontation mounts, a six-year American effort to cultivate Baghdad is looking like one of the more futile diplomatic exercises of the past decade, of relations in November 1984.

the United States has tried to woo the Iraqis through expanded trade and other ties. Since the events of Aug. 2, when Iraq took over Kuwait, diplomats like Wilson have been left to pick up the pieces.

At each meeting with Iraqi authorities, U.S. diplomats have stated in the clearest terms the U.S. demand that Iraq allow the stranded Americans to leave.

As officials describe it, the Iraqi explanations for their actions have been increasingly unconvincing. More and more, the Americans look like pawns in the war of nerves between the two governments. Saddam's actions, according to some analysts, suggest that he sees the Americans

U.S. Gulf deployments go beyond defensive potential

By Robert Burns
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. military buildup in the Gulf area, code-named Desert Shield to suggest its defensive intent, is adding Stealth fighter-bombers, marine amphibious assault units and other forces normally used for offence.

"There's a very substantial offensive capability in that area now," said Joshua Epstein, a defence analyst at the Brookings Institution, a private research organisation. He said the addition serves two purposes: To help dissuade Saddam Hussein from sending his army into Saudi Arabia, and to reassure the nervous Saudis.

The clearest sign of a shift towards offensive capabilities was the departure Thursday from

Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, of F-117A Stealth fighter-bombers.

The planes, which saw their first combat action during December's invasion of Panama, are designed to penetrate heavily defended areas to attack targets. In Iraq they could hit supply depots or key oil installations.

Military sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said plans called for sending 22 of the radar-evading fighter-bombers to the Gulf area.

Additional signs of a shift towards offence:

— President George Bush Thursday ordered U.S. naval forces in the Gulf region to begin "intercepting" commercial shipping to and from Iraq and Kuwait to enforce U.N. economic sanctions against Iraq. The orders allow the navy to use force

against ships if necessary.

— An armada of marine corps amphibious assault ships is heading for the Gulf. The seaborne units, equipped with amphibious tracked vehicles that can travel on land at speeds up to 80 kilometres an hour, are designed for offensive as well as defensive operations. They are supported by a variety of aircraft, including the F-16 Hornet, a ground attack plane also capable of air-to-air combat.

— The air force said B-52 bombers have been sent overseas since the start of the Gulf crisis. B-52s conducted massive bombing raids in the Vietnam war. Also moved to within striking range of Iraq are U.S. F-111 long-range bombers in Turkey.

— The marines are sending in 45,000 of their finest and deploying A-6E intruder bombers used in the U.S. bombing of Libya in 1986.

Among other weaponry the marines are taking to Saudi Arabia: More than 100 M1 battle tanks and more than 150 fixed-wing aircraft, including Harrier vertical takeoff planes used for light attack missions and close air support of ground troops.

Rear Admiral Steve Clary told an American press pool in Saudi Arabia Friday that the marines will take up defensive positions but will be ready "to defend as far forward as they can" in the event Iraq's army attacks Saudi Arabia.

"We certainly have assault capability," he said. "This is a mechanised capability with tanks, armoured vehicles, light armoured vehicles. They have that mobility and they have that firepower to go anywhere they're told to go."

Bush on Aug. 8 described Desert Shield as "purely defensive." He has said his ultimate goal was to get the Iraqi army out of Kuwait and to restore the Kuwaiti royal family to power. While emphasising an economic embargo, he has not ruled out the use of U.S. force to try to dislodge the Iraqi army.

Asked whether the F-117A Stealth planes had any defensive role in the Gulf crisis, Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams said Thursday, "I think this gets into the question of deterrence. Some of those forces that you have there would be deterrent by their mere presence."

Williams was referring to the idea that by sending offensive weaponry and large numbers of

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Assad, Saleh discuss Gulf crisis

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, one of Baghdad's most implacable foes, discussed the Gulf crisis with Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, whose country supports Iraq in its confrontation with the West. Officials said the two leaders held a telephone conversation Friday but gave no other details. Syria joined a majority of Arab countries in denouncing Iraq for its Aug. 2 take-over of Kuwait at an emergency Arab summit in Cairo. Yemen abstained at the summit which endorsed the deployment of Arab forces to Saudi Arabia. Yemenis have held several demonstrations against the sending of U.S. and Western forces to the Gulf.

U.S. asks Seoul to provide military supplies

SEOUL (AP) — The United States has asked South Korea to provide combat boots and other military supplies for foreign troops in Saudi Arabia, the South Korean news agency said Saturday. The Seoul government has yet to respond to the U.S. request, said the agency, Yonhap. South Korean officials want to deal cautiously with such requests related to conflicts in the Gulf, Yonhap said. South Korea, bowing to U.S. pressure, joined in international sanctions last week against Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait, including an embargo on crude oil imports. South Korea is totally dependent on imported oil. There are about 1,000 South Korean construction workers still in Iraq and Kuwait. In an interview published Tuesday by the Korean Herald, President Roh Tae-Won ruled out sending South Korean forces to the Gulf region.

South Sudan relief flights to resume

NAIROBI (R) — Relief flights to the southern Sudanese town of Juba from Nairobi were to resume Saturday after operations were halted last week when a Hercules supply plane crashed. Lutheran Church relief workers based in Nairobi said in a statement that emergency food stocks in Juba were sufficient for just one distribution to local refugees. More than 300,000 people have fled to the southern provincial capital to escape fighting between the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and government troops. The Lutheran World Federation said that a Hercules aircraft the group had chartered to airlift food into the town crashed at Juba airport Aug. 12. None of its crew were killed in the accident.

Saudi envoy: Force may have to be used

ABU DHABI (R) — Saudi Arabia's ambassador to the United Arab Emirates was quoted Saturday as saying the use of force against Iraq might be necessary to get it out of Kuwait. "Kuwait will return to its rulers and people whether Saddam wants it or not. We all favour peace, but if peaceful means do not work, there will be nothing to put him down save military methods," Mohammad Al Oteibi told the UAE paper Al Fajr. Tens of thousands of U.S. and Arab troops are deployed in Saudi Arabia to protect it after Iraq's President Saddam Hussein took over neighbouring Kuwait on Aug. 2. Oteibi said Baghdad had invaded Kuwait because it had squandered the oil and farming riches of its own economy through incompetence and corruption. "Who would have thought that a country with such resources would become bankrupt," he said.

Rival forces clash in east Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Rival forces clashed in east Beirut and nearby mountains, defying a shaky 11-week-old truce in Lebanon's inter-Christian fighting, security sources said Saturday. They said militiamen of the Lebanese Forces (LF) and troops loyal to defiant General Michel Aoun exchanged mortar and machinegun fire at Adlith in Beirut and Qlaiaht village in the Keserwan mountains. There was no word on casualties in the overnight fighting which eased in the morning. One soldier has been killed and several people wounded in similar clashes in the past few days. At least 1,000 people have been killed in more than six months of battles for the leadership of Lebanon's Christians.

China to help evacuate Taiwanese

BEIJING (AP) — China said Saturday it was prepared to help evacuate most of the estimated 140-160 Taiwanese in Kuwait if they ask for assistance. "The people on the two sides of the Taiwan Straits are all Chinese. Naturally, we should offer assistance within our capacity to our Taiwanese compatriots who have run into difficulties in other countries," said a Foreign Ministry spokesman in a telephone interview. "We have always been concerned about the situation of the Taiwanese compatriots stranded in Kuwait. If they would request assistance for their evacuation, I believe we would take their request into favourable consideration," said the spokesman. On Thursday, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade confirmed it had received a cable from the Chinese embassy in Kuwait saying it would help 123 employees of Taiwan's state-run BES Engineering leave Kuwait. However, neither the Foreign Ministry nor Trade Ministry would say whether the Taiwanese Company had asked for assistance.

More groups join Somali front

ROME (R) — Two more Somali groups have joined an opposition front set up earlier this month to overthrow the government of President Mohammad Siad Barre, a rebel spokesman said. The Somali Democratic Movement and the Somali Democratic Alliance have agreed to join the push to topple Barre, a spokesman for the Somali National Movement (SNM) said at the group's offices in Rome. Three guerrilla groups including the SNM agreed on a joint command structure Aug. 2 to coordinate operations against Somalia's military government. The other two founding organisations were the United Somali Congress and the Somali Patriotic Movement, which are fighting government forces in central and southern Somalia respectively. Opposition forces in the Horn of Africa nation have been fighting since May 1988 in overthrow Barre, who came to power in a 1969 coup.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:40	Programme review
15:45	Children programme
17:10	Football
18:00	News summary
18:10	Local programme
19:00	Programme review
19:05	News in Arabic
19:30	Arabic series
21:30	Programme review
21:45	Local programme
23:00	News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

17:45	Cartoons
18:10	Documentary
19:00	News in French
19:15	French varieties
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Various programme
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Hey Dad
21:10	Doc. "Path of the Rain God"
22:00	News in English
22:20	Hunter

PRAYER TIMES

04:34	Fajr
05:57	Dhuhr (Sunrise) Doha
12:39	Dhuhr
16:18	'Asr
19:21	Maghreb
20:45	Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swallow, Tel. 810740	
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785	
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440	
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757	
Teresian Church Tel. 622566	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 625541	
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543	
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331	
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261	
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751	
Armenian International Church Tel. 653326	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817 and 654932	

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Normal summer weather will prevail and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

EMERGENCIES

	Min./max. temp.
Amman	20 / 32
Aqaba	25 / 38
Deserts	20 / 36
Jordan Valley	24 / 37

USEFUL NUMBERS

AMMAN:	
Dr. Jamil Maraga	776046
Dr. Saad Abu Hatab	694846
Dr. Tawfik Qab'In	632029
Dr. Kayed Halayeh	791522
Firas pharmacy	622520
Ferdous pharmacy	776336
Al Asana pharmacy	637055
Natrouk pharmacy	626672
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Yaacoub pharmacy	644945
Shmiciant pharmacy	637660
REID:	
Dr. Shihab Al Zagh	(—)
Al Sharaz pharmacy	(985238)
ZARQA:	
Dr. Abdul Karim Khassabeh	(—)
Khalifah pharmacy	985417

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:	
Hussein Medical Centre	813813/352
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn.	642816
Akshel Maternity, J. Amn.	642441
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Mahar, J. Amman	636140
Palatine, Shmiciant	661714
Shmiciant Hospital	609131
Amal Hospital	667227/9
The Islamic, Abdal	666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdal	6641646
Al-Mahajra	771010/3
Al-Bashe, J. Amman	775112/6
Army, Marfa	891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital	602240/50
Amal Hospital	674155
ZARQA:	
Zarqa Govt. Hospital	(09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital	(09)991071
Bo Al-Nafes Hospital	(09)967322
IRBID:	
Princess Summa Hospital	(02)275555
Green Catholic Hospital	(02)272775
Bo Al-Nafes Hospital	(02)247100
AQABA:	
Princess Haya Hospital	(03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
09:25	Larnaca (CY)
11:00	Jeddah (SV)
12:30	Cairo (MS)
13:30	Tripoli (LN)

ARRIVALS

09:45	Doha (RJ)
10:00	Jeddah (RJ)
10:30	Cairo (RJ)
10:45	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
10:55	Bahrain (RJ)
11:00	Cairo (RJ)
11:15	Riyadh (add.) (RJ)
11:45	Paris, Rome (RJ)
11:55	Madrid (RJ)
12:00	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
12:15	Istanbul (RJ)
12:45	Brussels, Geneva (RJ)
13:00	Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
13:05	London (RJ)
13:20	Aqaba (RJ)
13:45	Bahrain (add.) (RJ)

MARKET PRICES

	Upper/lower price in fils per kg.
Apples	550 / 450
Apricots	600 / 500
Bananas	500 / 450
Banana (Mukammal)	450 / 400
Beans	320 / 260
Cabbage	130 / 100
Carrot	250 / 200
Cauliflower	230 / 180
Corn	180 / 140
Cucumbers (large)	120 / 80
Cucumbers (small)	230 / 180
Eggplant	160 / 120
Figs	300 / 250
Garlic	800 / 700
Grapefruit	350 / 300
Grapes	250 / 200
Lemon (green)	300 / 250
Lemon (yellow)	450 / 400
Mango	120 / 80
Marrow (large)	100 / 60
Marrow (small)	180 / 140
Onion (dry)	220 / 180
Orange	450 / 400
Okra	450 / 400
Pears	380 / 320
Peas	700 / 600
Pepper (hot)	200 / 150
Pepper (sweet)	160 / 120
Potato	340 / 280
Radish	150 / 100
Sage	500 / 400
Sweet melon	180 / 120
Tomatoes	130 / 80
Watermelon	110 / 70

DEPARTURES

	Upper/lower price in fils per kg.
09:25	Larnaca (CY)
11:00	Jeddah (SV)
12:30	Cairo (MS)
13:30	Tripoli (LN)

Shares continue downward trend

By Ghadeer Taber
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Stock prices at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) continued their plunge Saturday as hopes diminished for a quick settlement of the Middle East crisis.

Uncertainty over developments in the Gulf crisis has prompted investors to liquidate their holdings in a "bid to get as much cash as possible" causing share prices to plummet at least 20 per cent since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait Aug. 2. Some stock-brokers said the overall drop in share prices for the last two weeks was closer to 30 per cent.

"It is a substantial drop considering the time span but it is not dangerous," said Dr. Abdullah Al Malki, manager of the Jordanian Banking Association, Saturday.

"Share prices will continue to decline but then they will stabilise unless the crisis takes a sharp turn for the worse," he added.

The shares most affected by the

Gulf crisis were industrial shares which dropped by 4.2 per cent last week, according to Ghada Al Fanek, a financial market analyst, who compiles her own market index in the Al Dastour Arabic daily. Fanek's index showed a drop of nearly 15 per cent in the first week after Iraq invaded Kuwait and nearly four per cent decline in the second week.

According to Fanek's index, banking sector shares declined 4.1 per cent, insurance shares dropped 2.7 per cent and service sector stocks experienced a 2.6 per cent drop in the second week after the take-over.

"The drop, especially in industries which export to Iraq, is serious but it is also justified," said a market analyst. "People would rather have cash during a crisis than investments which could be blown up," he added. "Many industries in Jordan are oriented towards the Iraqi market. It is estimated that Iraq imports 25 per cent of Jordan's exports. Jordan also buys 90 per

cent of its crude oil from Iraq. Economists believe the ability of the AFM to recover hinges on the future of Aqaba port and the question of sanctions. "The sanctions issue will determine what happens to the market," a Jordanian economist said. "Already some firms in Jordan have stopped receiving raw material from the west. The impact of the sanctions (on Iraq) are already being felt," he added.

An official source said that imposing United Nations sanctions against Iraq could cost Jordan well over \$1.2 billion annually.

Banking sector shares, which dropped about four per cent, also contributed to a large part of the drop in overall prices. Arab Bank shares dropped 24 per cent in the last three weeks from JD 281 to JD 212.4.

"The decline will continue but it will be more moderate because the low prices will attract new investors creating new demand," said Dr. Fahed Al Fanek, an economic analyst.

He expects the market performance to improve because most people were expecting a military confrontation which has not happened.

Despite the low prices, a buyers' market expected by most analysts has not yet emerged. "People expect the prices of shares to drop even further so they are waiting to buy," Dr. Fanek explained.

Market activity was "low" Saturday with "hardly any buying or selling," according to an investor. "Some investors were very eager to sell but they did not find buyers," he added. The number of shares traded dropped by about 20 per cent last week, according to Fanek's index.

In order to head off a further drop in share prices, the management of the AFM changed the daily upper and lower limit from five per cent to two per cent to "give investors more time to consider their investment decision." Lowering the limit results in a lower loss and profit margin.

Jordanian American society dissolved

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian American Friendship Society, which was set up three months ago, has been dissolved in the light of the American hostile attitude towards the Arab Nation, according to an announcement by the society's President Mohammad Kamal.

"The United States is considered hostile to the Arabs because of its continued support for Israel, its attitude with regard to the Arab causes and its deployment of troops in holy places in launch aggression on Iraq," Kamal said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The society groups several hundred American educated Arabs including senators and deputies. In his statement Kamal, who is also member of the Upper House of Parliament, said that in view of Washington's attitudes the society can no longer carry out its functions in a normal manner and therefore it is considered dissolved.

When created in May, the society came under severe attacks by leftists and Muslim fundamentalists.

Ministry urges farmers to plan for the future

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Agriculture Suleiman Arabiyat Saturday urged specialists in agriculture to draw up a future plan for agricultural research to help promote farming in Jordan, improve the standards of the local farmers and ensure self-sufficiency in food supplies for the Kingdom.

Addressing the opening session of a workshop organised by the National Centre for Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer, the minister expressed hope that the centre would help Jordan develop its agriculture and ensure food security through joint efforts by local and foreign experts involved in the centre's work.

Ministry of Agriculture's Secretary-General Sami Sunnaa said that the door was open for agricultural research which is bound to help solve many problems in Jordan.

The centre's Director Naim Sharaf told the meeting that apart from conducting research, the staff were concerned with transferring modern ideas and methods in farming to local farmers.

The centre, set up at Baqaa last year with the help of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) aims at serving as a regional centre for studying farming problems, dealing with plant diseases, irrigation problems, planting techniques, harvesting and marketing practices. It also aims at finding solutions to problems and offering solutions for the farmers.

India

(Continued from page 1)

The minister said he could make a "realistic assessment" of the situation only after his Baghdad talks, which, he said, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz welcomed during a telephone contact between them while he was visiting Moscow last week.

Replying to a question, the minister said India does not condone Iraq's occupation of Kuwait but nor does it endorse "external interference" in regional affairs.

The official Indian position on the Gulf crisis is that New Delhi regrets the Iraqi take-over of Kuwait and believes that the issue should be settled regionally rather than any involvement by outside parties, according to statements issued in the Indian capital. Gujral did not delve into the issue.

The minister paid tribute to Crown Prince Hassan, who received him for a first round of talks late Friday night after his arrival, "for an enlightened assessment of the situation."

Gujral, who became the first foreign leader to visit the Iraqi capital after the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait when he flew into Baghdad late Saturday aboard a special plane, said he hoped to meet the highest Iraqi leadership during his "perhaps two-day stay" there.

During his visit to Amman, the minister also met with Indians who arrived here from Kuwait through Iraq to take flights home. Gujral is expected back in Amman late Sunday or early Monday, depending upon availability of flight routes from Baghdad.

Jordan has adhered to all U.N. resolutions — Crown Prince

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is currently discussing with the United Nations the question of sanctions against Iraq as contained in Security Council resolutions earlier this month, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said in a statement to the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

The Jordanian government, he noted, has fully explained its position since the outbreak of the Iraq-Kuwait crisis with regard to the question of sanctions.

Prince Hassan's statement to the American NBC television network a day earlier was reiterating that "we would like to make it very clear that Jordan had adhered to all U.N. resolutions."

Our approach has been pointed out very clearly to all governments concerned, including the European Council of Ministers, that we are consulting with the U.N. secretary-general over all aspects related to the council resolution," the Prince noted in the NBC interview.

Prince Hassan said that since the outbreak of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti conflict Jordan has been seeking to find a just solution to the problem within an Arab framework.

Jordan, he said, would like to see the principles of peace and justice enforced everywhere, noting that Jordan had been waiting for 23 years for the implementation

of U.N. Security Council resolutions concerning Palestine to end the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land.

The crisis in the Gulf is motivated by the presence of oil, but one has to take into consideration the fact that this region is home for millions of Arabs and is inhabited by foreigners as well and therefore it is hoped that a satisfactory solution will soon be found.

The Prince said that Jordan had expressed its position to the European Community delegation, especially with regard to the Kingdom's import/export operations.

Thousands continue to arrive at Al Ruweished

By Ali Masarweh
Special to the Jordan Times

AL RUWEISHED — Thousands of people of various nationalities continued to arrive at the Al Ruweished border post near the Iraqi-Jordanian border Saturday.

The only crossing point between Iraq and Jordan was congested with hundreds of cars and buses which brought thousands of people from Kuwait via Iraq.

The previous record of 17,000 arrivals Friday was expected to be exceeded Saturday due to the increased influx of Egyptian labourers from Kuwait.

"Yesterday more than 9,000 (Egyptians) arrived in Jordan; today, we expect thousands more," a Jordanian official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told the Jordan Times.

Most of the other people arriving at Al Ruweished were Jordanian, Syrian and Lebanese nationals; the reports that West Europeans would arrive during the day could not be confirmed.

Although eye-witness reports on the current situation in Kuwait were somewhat conflicting, most travellers said that life in Kuwait had returned back to normal.

"After the chaotic situation of the first few days (after the Iraqi take-over Aug. 2) the situation on the streets is back to normal; shops are reopening and although Kuwaiti police are nowhere to be seen, Iraqi troops are controlling traffic and are distributing food when necessary," one Jordanian expatriate living in Kuwait said.

Some Egyptian nationals heavily criticised practices by Iraqi troops in Kuwait. "I was robbed by an Iraqi soldier," one Egyptian claimed.

The monetary situation in Kuwait was said to be the gravest problem facing Jordanians working and living in Kuwait. "We were not able to withdraw any money from our accounts for more than ten days," one Jordanian expatriate said. "We had to depend on friends and relatives for our daily needs," he added.

While the roads leading to Kuwait through Iraq were reported to be safe, several Jordanians trying to reach Jordan via Saudi Arabia said they were mistreated by Saudi border guards and denied entry to Saudi Arabia.

"The Saudis at the Kuwait-Saudi border held our passports for several days, leaving us stranded in the desert and unprotected from the burning sun. Those who tried to get their passports back were even beaten," one Jordanian said.

Unexpectedly, dozens of Jordanians were seen headed back to Kuwait from Al Ruweished. "I am going back because the banks have reopened and my family and work are there," one Jordanian shopowner told the Jordan Times.

Jordanian border officials are bracing themselves for a continued influx of foreigners from Kuwait. Egyptian labourers, who account for more than 70 per cent of all people arriving at Al Ruweished are being brought directly to Aqaba by specially chartered buses to relieve the crowded border posts and surrounding areas.

Jordan is pooling efforts to help foreigners coming from Iraq

ZARQA (J.T.) — The Jordanian government is mobilising all its efforts and doing all it can to provide facilities to Arab nationals arriving in Jordan through the Ruweished border post near the Iraqi border, according to Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masaadeh.

"Thousands of non-Jordanian Arabs are arriving in Jordan from Iraq and Kuwait on their way home and the Jordanian authorities will continue to offer all possible help to them," said the minister during an inspection tour of the facilities offered to a group of Sudanese citizens who crossed into Jordan and are being put up at the Duleil School near Zarqa where special arrangements have

been provided for them and other non-Jordanian Arabs.

The minister was briefed on the various services offered to the Sudanese citizens and discussed with the concerned officials arrangements for their transportation to Sudan via Aqaba on board a vessel which arrived at Aqaba for this purpose.

Dr. Abbas Abu Shameh, former Sudanese interior minister who is among the Sudanese who arrived here from Kuwait, expressed appreciation to the Jordanian authorities for their help and for the hospitality accorded to his group.

Masaadeh was accompanied on the inspection tour by Zarqa gov-

ernor and a group of local officials.

Over 17,000 people of various Arab, Asian and African nationalities arrived in Jordan from Iraq Friday, and an influx of many thousands of others is expected to cross into Jordan.

Over 150,000 foreigners, including 200 Westerners, have fled Iraq through Jordan since the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait on Aug. 2, according to some accounts.

Over 1,200 Jordanians also arrived from Kuwait through Iraq Friday and some of them complained that they had to abandon their vehicles on the Iraqi side of the border in light of a new rule which bars Kuwait licence plate vehicles from leaving Iraq.

Jordan to participate in Berlin green week

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Agricultural Marketing Organisation (AMO) is making arrangements to take part in the Berlin International Green Week to be held before the end of this year.

AMO is now trying to establish a federation of Jordanian agricultural exporters to facilitate this mission and similar ones in the future, according to engineer Jamil Zureiqat.

Zureiqat is an AMO official in charge of a five-year agricultural marketing development project which began in 1988 to involve foreign expertise in the course of improving Jordanian agricultural marketing methods.

Through the projected federation AMO hopes to overcome obstacles in the way of marketing products and facilitating their transportation to European and Gulf states, Zureiqat said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

"We have organised for exporters tours of various centres, facilitated their contacts with European importers to conclude agreements and have been providing expertise and advice on marketing procedures and technical help in improving exports," said Zureiqat.

Two major seminars were organised over the past two years to discuss packaging, transporting and marketing crops in Europe and the Gulf countries, and trial shipments have been sent to Europe and the Gulf to study the

problems that impede proper marketing and transportation, Zureiqat added.

Last June Minister of Agriculture Suleiman Arabiyat took part in a meeting in Amman that Jordan earned JD 53 million from its crop exports to Europe in the first five months of 1990, and predicted that total crop exports

could earn the country JD 140 million by the end of 1990.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) was cooperating with AMO to carry out the project to help Jordan boost exports; last January USAID financed the shipment of crops to the annual International Green Week in Berlin.

Karak opens centres for civil defence training

KARAK (Petra) — A total of 14 centres to train people on civil defence operations were opened in the Karak region and civil defence men started training the local citizens, according to Major Fayez Freih, civil defence director here.

He said that four of the centres were in Karak, four in Qasr, three at Mazar, and three others at Ghor Safi.

At least 700 volunteers will take part in the training courses to learn first aid, rescue work and fire fighting.

In Zarqa civil defence men Saturday started training courses in first aid, rescue and firefighting at the rate of three hours a day. Participants in the courses will have a week-long training period before joining teams organised to provide civil defence training. The volunteers include workers at companies and factories as well

as school children and employees in the public and private sector. In Tafleeh training in civil defence operations began at the Princess Basma Community Social Centre.

Similar training courses have started at the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) and at the National Jordanian Red Crescent Society in Amman.

An announcement at the Civil Defence Department in the capital said that training in the city would start soon and called on volunteers to register their names.

Meanwhile, beads of municipal and rural councils who have been holding meetings to discuss ways of confronting the foreign intervention in Arabia sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein Saturday voicing total support for his leadership.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King condoles Al Ukour family

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday delegated the governor of Irbid to take part in the funeral of Haj Muhammad Muhawish Mahmoud Al Ukour, father of Lower House of Parliament Deputy Abdul Rahim Al Ukour, and to convey the King's condolences to the family of the deceased. His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of King Hussein, also delegated the director of the Irbid Governorate Police Department to convey his condolences to Al Ukour family. Prime Minister Mudar Badran also delegated Irbid deputy governor to convey condolences to Al Ukour family.

Prince Hassan condoles Al Ma'aitah family

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday delegated retired Major General Mohammad Odeh Al Nijadat, an advisor in Prince Hassan's office, to condole Al Ma'aitah family over the death of retired army officer Adnan Al Ma'aitah. Prince Hassan also delegated Irbid police deputy director to condole Al Ukour family over the death of Haj Muhammad Muhawish Mahmoud Al Ukour, father of parliament's Deputy Abdul Rahim Ukour.

Minister visits college, hospital

ZARQA (Petra) — Minister of Health Mohammad Adoub Al Zaben Saturday visited the new nursing college on Yajouz highway and inspected the different departments of the college which will open for female students next month. Zaben, accompanied by Zarqa governor Mohammad Hussein Al Shobaki, also visited Zarqa Government Hospital and was briefed by the hospital's director Dr. Mahmoud Awad on the hospital needs.

JNRCS assists 500 Poles

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) has provided assistance to 500 Polish nationals who arrived to Al Ruweished border post, according to JNRCS sources. The sources added that JNRCS provided Al Ruweished border post with a medical team and an ambulance. The sources said the society was contacted by the Red Cross societies of Hungary, Brazil, Mexico, Japan, Poland and the Philippines which were inquiring about their nationals in Kuwait and Iraq.

Book exhibition opens in Tafleeh

TAFILEH (Petra) — A comprehensive book exhibition organised by the Tafleeh Islamic Cultural Centre was opened Saturday at the Tafleeh municipality's library. The week-long exhibition displays 1,500 titles in different fields.

Cabinet approves setting of fund

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet, convening Saturday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mudar Badran, approved a draft agreement on managing the development and employment fund. The fund aims at providing job opportunities, raising the living standards and incomes of certain social classes and protecting the poor from the negative aspects of the current economic stage.

Union, ESCWA sign agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman-based Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Trade and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) have signed an agreement which entails cooperation in the fields of preparing studies to deal with trade, industrial and agricultural cooperation among the countries of the region. The agreement entails exchanging opinions, information and expertise between the union and ESCWA, holding seminars, conferences and meetings to be attended by experts to discuss issues related to regional cooperation in the fields of trade and industry and preparing for joint projects.

Party calls for national mobilisation

AMMAN (J.T.) — The First Secretary of Jordan's People Democratic Party, Tayseer Al Zibri, praised the decision by the Jordanian Arab National Democratic Bloc to call the people for a comprehensive national mobilisation campaign and to form "committees for defending the homeland," against American and Zionist threats. Zibri affirmed that his party, in accordance with the resolutions taken by the party's central committee extraordinary meeting on Aug. 15 announcing the public mobilisation campaign, forming the defence committees and being a founding and active member in the bloc is ready to help the bloc bring the campaign to success. Zibri called all the political and religious powers and official institutions to join this campaign.

Iraqi dinar takes a dive

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Against the uncertainty surrounding the Gulf situation, the Iraqi dinar has taken a slide in the Jordanian money market, from 175/180 fils last week to 150 fils Saturday, banking sources said.

The leading buyer in the market was the Housing Bank, which bought the currency at 150 fils and offered it at 210 fils, in what banking experts described as hedging against any dramatic fluctuation.

The Arab Bank, the leading Jordanian commercial bank, and the Jordan-Kuwait Bank said they were not buying Iraqi dinars at all. The Islamic Bank said it was applying "discretion" in dealing with the Iraqi currency.

Economic analysts interpreted the high range of difference between the buying and selling rate offered by the Housing Bank for the Iraqi dinar as normal banking practices under the present circumstances.

According to Dr. Fahed Fanek, "if the only factor in the market was the merger of the Iraqi and Kuwaiti dinars (as announced last week) then the Iraqi dinar should have gained strength. But, apparently, the threats of military action (in the Gulf) are influencing the market."

Dr. Fanek explained that it was only customary that any bank "will ensure that it will have a safety cushion against any dramatic decrease or increase in the value of any currency, and I see the (60 fils) difference, although a bit too high, as part of that process and policy."

All Jordanian commercial banks ceased to buy or sell Kuwaiti dinars, two days after Iraq's take-over of Kuwait. The only buyers for the Kuwaiti dinar, once one of the strongest currencies in the region, were in the

"black market," said the source. "Some of them are buying it at the same rate as the Iraqi dinar, but there are not many sellers perhaps because those who have the Kuwaiti currency believe that its value could go up dramatically once the situation is clear," said one source.

"Perhaps that will also explain the interest in the black market to buy Kuwaiti dinars," he added. Bankers said there was an abundance of Iraqi dinars in the Jordanian market, mainly brought in by the thousands of Egyptians who passed through the Kingdom on their way to Egypt from Kuwait and Iraq across the Iraqi-Saudi border. Iraqi laws prohibit transfer of Iraqi currency outside.

"Most of them appeared to have carried with them plenty of Iraqi dinars, which they changed in Jordan," said a senior banking official. "The amount involved could be great, and it is showing in the market."

"Dr. Fanek agreed that there was plenty of the Iraqi currency in the market. "Most of the money appears to have been changed for shopping purposes by the Egyptians," he said, noting that the Iraqi dinar was not a "prime currency" in the Egyptian money market and the rate available in the "black market" in Egypt was below the actual value of the currency.

"The tension has taken its toll on the Iraqi dinar," said another banker. "It is slowly deteriorating, not because of any serious problems with the Iraqi economy but because of fears and uncertainty prevailing in the region. But I expect the currency to go up once deescalation begins."

What could be the fate of the Kuwaiti dinar? "This is a question no-one can answer," the banker said, "everything depends on what happens in the next few weeks and what kind of a solution comes out to resolve the Gulf crisis."

West Germany to grant loan for industry, trade

AMMAN (Petra) — A financial agreement was signed last week at the Ministry of Planning between Jordan and West Germany. Under the terms of the agreement the West German government will present a \$5 million deutschmark (DM)-loan to support the corrective programme for the industry and trade sector.

The loan will be presented under soft terms through the German Construction Bank. Under the terms of this financial agreement another loan agreement between the Jordanian government and the German Construction Bank will be signed to define the process and conditions for utilising the loan.

The value of this loan represents the financial allocations for the year 1990 which stand at DM 30 million, and re-allocations worth DM 25 million from previous allocations for the second stage of the South Jordan Valley irrigation project.

The agreement was signed between Minister of Planning Khaled Amin Abdullah and the West German charge d'affaires in Amman in the presence of the Ministry of Planning Secretary-General Safwan Touqan and

several officials at the ministry and the German Embassy.

In another development, a memo of understanding was signed between the Jordanian government and the World Food Programme (WFP).

Under the terms of the agreement the WFP will provide Jordan with food assistance worth \$1,811,124 which will be presented to drought victims in the southern and eastern regions of the Kingdom.

The memo was signed between minister of planning and the WFP representative in Jordan, Ali Atiqah.

A draft agreement for supporting non-governmental organisations in Jordan was signed between the government and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) which will provide assistance worth \$250,000.

The agreement aims at supporting non-governmental organisations at the administrative and technical levels to improve their contribution to productive activities.

The agreement was signed between minister of planning and the UNDP representative in Amman.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

★ Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zaru displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).

★ Art exhibition by Suhaila Al Kowass at the Royal Cultural Centre.

Jordan Times

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Sunday's Economic Pulse

The prohibitive cost of economic sanctions

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

POLITICAL pressures and military threats are mounting by the hour to force Jordan to fall in line as a part of the chain of blockade Iraq. President Bush threatened to blockade Aqaba. But to force Jordan to comply with the sanctions as he likes to understand them. At American advice, Israeli threats against Jordan are not made openly and loudly to avoid embarrassing the Arab rulers who allied themselves to the United States against Iraq. It is not important to point out that blocking international trade to Aqaba is not legal. America may be very legalistic internally, but it is the greatest outlaw in the international arena, as indicated by its many incursions, and the numerous verdicts issued by the International Court of Justice.

It is not productive to describe the American illegal blockade as an aggression or an act of war, because we don't have the means to respond to a military action by the super power. We have only the political and economic considerations to resort to. On the political level, Jordan has many cards that the Americans failed, so far, to appreciate their importance. Jordan is a democratic country. It is the duty of the Government to reflect the views of the public opinion. Those who claim to be the promoters of democracy in the free world should not expect a democratic government to act contrary to the dictate of its people. Jordan as a democratic country enjoying the full freedom of expression is becoming

a public opinion leader in the Arab World. Views expressed by Jordanians should be seen as an expression of the pan-Arab will. It does not pay America and the West to lose the good will of the Jordanian people and the Arab Nation. America, Britain and the rest are worried about the fate of their thousands of citizens stranded in Kuwait and Iraq. No one called them hostages yet, but let us not kid ourselves. You cannot take Iraq and its financial assets hostage and expect Iraq to release those human assets. When the twenty five thousand Europeans become hostages, and in danger of starving to death or tried as spies, the West will not find better than His Majesty King Hussein who

can speak to the West and to Iraq to help secure their safety and well being. On the economic side, the world started to realise that the sanctions will hurt Jordan five times as much as they can hurt Iraq. The application of sanctions by Jordan, whose economy is integrated with the Iraqi and Kuwaiti economies, amounts to a suicide that no one in his right mind should dare to ask Jordan to commit. The U.N. Security Council will have to accept Jordan's application for exemption from adhering to the sanctions in accordance with the United Nations charter. Iraqi and Kuwaiti markets make up some 30 per cent of Jordan's exports who make 53 per cent of the gross domestic product. The loss of those mar-

kets will reduce the national economy by 15 per cent or \$650 million. Remittances from Jordanian expatriates were expected to top \$900 million this year according to IMF projections. Kuwait contributes over one third of these remittances, a further loss of \$300 million or 7 per cent of national income. The closure of Aqaba in the face of Iraqi transit will knock off another 6 per cent of the national income and create an equal percentage to unemployment in the transport sector. Thus the direct losses would be in the order of 28 per cent of the gross domestic product and an extra unemployment of 22 per cent of total labour force to be added to the already high rate of unemployment of 16 to 20 per cent.

When we take indirect losses into account, the total loss will be unimaginable, it is simply total collapse. It is not true that Jordanian direct and indirect losses are estimated at \$1.2 billion. That is a gross understatement. The loss is much larger. How can we put value on unemployment of 40 to 42 per cent? And how can we assign value to losing Jordanian markets for ever, and destroying our productive capacity in both industrial and transport sectors. All compensations in the world cannot make good these far-reaching losses that threaten not only the national income but also the national security and the very social and political stability of the country.

Fishing in murky waters

ISRAELI Shabak, the noted Israeli political analyst and peace activist, in a recent article published by the London-based Middle East International, concluded that the Jewish state's political establishment had already started to tell its constituency that "threats" by the Arabs made it inevitable on Israel to carry a pre-emptive strike against them.

Shabak's article was written well before the present Gulf crisis erupted. And although the U.S. told Israel, right from the beginning of the current crisis, to stay away, the Israeli establishment still saw in it an opportunity to advocate self-serving purposes which cannot be overlooked. High among those were: That the Arabs cannot be partners in a peace settlement in Palestine and that Iraq's growing power in the region must be destroyed. Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens last Wednesday threatened to "use tough aerial retaliation" against Iraq if Iraqi troops crossed into Jordan.

There are two points that stand out in this regard. First, Israel, in all the wars it waged against the Arabs, had always found an alibi for its aggression, played it up and used it to justify its strike. Second, in a highly explosive situation like that in the Gulf today, it is extremely difficult to limit the movement of troops, especially war planes to the borders of one country. That is why Jordan feels that, in spite of America's warning to Israel to stay away, the Israelis might decide to exploit the opportunity and strike at Iraq. Any strike against Iraq will most certainly be also directed against Jordan, and that is why perhaps Israeli officials and the media have at the same time been leading a concerted campaign against Jordan. In the past months the Israelis were making allegations and threats about Iraqi troops entering the Kingdom. Jordan has made clear that it has no intention of allowing any Arab or foreign troops on its soil. However, Jordan insists that in case of any aggression from Israel, the country will have no choice but to defend itself with all the means at its disposal, including calling on Arab help in accordance to the obligations of the joint Arab defence pact. Jordan knows very well Israeli intentions and designs and will keep a watchful eye on any possible aggression.

Now that Israeli claims of possible Iraqi troops deployment in Jordan have proven groundless, the Israelis are reporting to another pretext to justify its campaign against Jordan. Last week, Israeli deputy head of the Knesset's foreign relations committee Benjamin Ben-Eliezer threatened Jordan for allegedly using the port of Aqaba for the transfer of Iraqi goods. Jordan has repeatedly made clear that it abides by U.N. resolutions, which Israel has always wished and chosen to ignore. However, the enforcement of U.N. resolutions must be a matter for the U.N. to apply. Jordan has said time and again that the situation in the region is very volatile. Therefore, any Israeli action targeted against this country or against Iraq or any other Arab country will have grave consequences on the region as a whole and will certainly contribute, very negatively to all efforts aimed at defusing the region's current crisis.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Commenting on King Hussein's visit to the United States to try to end the Gulf crisis, Al Ra'i Arabic daily said that the dangerous situation in the region requires from all peace loving heads of state and nations to try their hand to save the region and perhaps the whole world from catastrophe. The paper said that world leaders should try to save the wealth of the world from total destruction by reaching a settlement to the whole problems that would safeguard the interests of all concerned parties. By trying to defuse tension, the King was hoping to save the world from a calamity; and by talking to President Bush he was hoping to end foreign domination and keep the crisis within the Arab framework, said the paper. It said that trying to avert a catastrophe, is the responsibility of all sensible people; and their success in this respect would no doubt open the way for a peaceful and just settlement.

In an article entitled "Evil doers and not merchants" A columnist in Al Ra'i daily Saturday called for exposing the names of those merchants who had concealed huge amounts of food supplies for profiteering purposes. There is no need for concealing the names of those who committed this action and deprived many homes of their needs of foodstuffs with the purpose of selling commodities at higher prices later, says Salah Abdul Samad. As long as the concerned authorities have discovered the evil doers, there is need now to expose their names to the public because they have abandoned all principles and decided to do harm to their countrymen and blackmail consumers, says the writer. It is the right of the public to know the names of those who hid the food supplies because it is they who normally spread harmful rumours and blackmail the ordinary citizens, says Abdul Samad. Releasing the names of those merchants who were caught concealing the food commodities will be a precautionary measure on the part of the concerned authorities to deprive the culprits of it doing further harm to the society, the writer stresses.

Sawt Al Shabab daily said Saturday that the United States forces have been sent to Arabia with the purpose of ensuring Washington's seizure of the oil wealth on the one hand and to impose the U.S.-Israeli hegemony on the other. But, the paper noted, Washington has in mind also the question of controlling the destiny of Japan and the European countries which will continue to need the Arab oil which can only be obtained through Washington's approval. At the moment, the United States is trying to consolidate its hold on the Gulf region and trying to pull with it other nations to legitimise its action and pave the way for possible military action in the Gulf, the paper noted. It said that the United States is doing all that in the face of opposition to the use of military action by U.N. Security Council members and regardless of King Hussein's efforts to try to end the crisis.

By Edith M. Lederer
The Associated Press

LONDON — The first Argentine ambassador to Britain since the Falklands war of 1982 said his son's Argentine soccer team shirt was an example of how relations have improved.

"Argentines here or Britons in Argentina are able to wear the national colours now... without any trouble at all," Hector Campora said, "and by that, I say, you could assess the mood of the people of both countries."

His 12-year-old son Mario wears the blue and white shirt around London regularly.

Campora, who arrived in London less than three months ago, expressed hope that historic close relations will be restored even though both countries still claim the Falklands. Argentina calls

them the Malvinas.

President Carlos Menem chose Campora to break the diplomatic ice eight years after Argentina invaded the South Atlantic islands and was routed by the British in a 74-day war. He is 59 and was deputy foreign minister before taking the job.

Another war to settle the dispute "would be against the trends of international relations where any regional conflicts are solved by peaceful means," he said in an interview.

Argentina has claimed the archipelago 480 kilometres off its coast since declaring independence from Spain in 1816. British claims to the islands, where sheep far outnumber the 2,000 inhabitants, are based on occupation since 1833.

The ambassador, a friend of Menem and member of his Peronist party, feels history and

geography favour Argentina.

"Nobody can build life in isolation," he said. "We believe that the islands will be increasingly integrated to the continent. That means to the continent of the Argentine republic."

Campora plans to open an exhibition at the National Museum of Wales marking 125 years of Welsh settlement in the Patagonia region of southern Argentina. "The Welsh have been very happy in Argentina, so why not the inhabitants of the islands?" he asked.

For the moment, he is willing to concentrate on rebuilding commercial, scientific and cultural links. Differences over the Falklands are formally assigned to an Anglo-Argentine working group created when diplomatic relations were restored in February, which must hold its first meeting by February 1991.

A British rugby team has toured Argentina and a parliamentary delegation plans to visit Buenos Aires in September.

Argentine lawmakers recently came to London, a polo team is touring Britain, a trade mission is expected this year and senior Argentine air force officers will show the Fama IA63 Pampa jet trainer at the Farnborough Air Show in September, Campora said.

Since moving into the old Argentine consulate in Knightbridge, behind Harrod's department store, Campora has been busy meeting politicians, diplomats and businessmen. He mentioned two "most gratifying" sessions with Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd.

"I got the feeling there was a political will as strong in the

United Kingdom as in Argentina to develop strong links, as strong as in the past," he said.

The ambassador has yet to meet Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who sent a British task force to recapture the islands. She still refuses to discuss the islands' sovereignty.

When Campora presented his credentials to Queen Elizabeth II, he said, no mention was made of the war, in which Prince Andrew, her second son, was a helicopter pilot.

"She devoted some extra time with me, taking into account that, for eight years, there was no Argentine represented here," he said with a broad smile.

After his first visit to Buckingham Palace, Campora invited the coachmen who brought him back to the embassy to come inside, and had a footman take carrots and sugar to the horses on a silver

salver. He is a career diplomat who served in Geneva, Washington, the Hague and New Delhi. Campora was an aide to his uncle, also named Hector, who led a government for six weeks after Juan Peron returned from exile in 1973.

Campora never had to defend the Falklands invasion because he sat out the military rule of 1976-83, working with his uncle and the peronists for the restoration of constitutional government.

After Menem's inauguration in July 1989, Campora became deputy foreign minister. He said the posting to London was meant as a promotion.

Establishing diplomatic relations with Britain a top priority for Menem, who wants "to show to the world the new look of Argentine foreign and domestic policy," Campora said.

Gulf crisis exposes gulf between Israelis, Palestinians

By Jonathan Karp
Reuters

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Israeli liberals and Palestinians find themselves on opposite sides of the Gulf crisis, threatening a peace dialogue that was carefully nurtured through more than two years of violence.

Israeli peace activists have expressed growing dismay at Palestinian support for Iraqi President Saddam Hussein against U.S.-led efforts to force a withdrawal from Kuwait.

After trumpeting the need for peace with Palestinians during a 32-month-old uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories, many of the activists feel betrayed by the groundswell of support for Saddam, who has threatened to attack Israel if attacked.

"It is a stupid reaction that retards the peace process," Labour party member of parliament Abraham Burg told Reuters. "The PLO has changed from a pro-peace orientation to an old Middle Eastern position of blood

for blood." Burg was one of 16 dovish opposition legislators who last week signed a pledge with pro-PLO Palestinian nationalists to work for peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians "internationally recognised legitimate representative."

NEWS ANALYSIS

The statement was the closest

the legislators had come to recognising the Palestine Liberation Organisation, which the Israeli government brands a terrorist group and seeks to bar from peace efforts.

That public signing ceremony marked the high point of the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue which started in 1988 with secretive, night-time meetings in Jerusalem. This week, however, Israeli peace activists said they were reducing contacts, arguing the PLO could not simultaneously side with a leader who wanted to destroy Israel and negotiate a

peaceful settlement with the Jewish state.

"Every achievement by the PLO in the last three years is 'caduc'," Burg said, using the French term for "null and void" that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat employed in 1989 to declare the PLO's covenant calling for the destruction of Israel was dead.

A Western diplomat in Israel said of the Palestinian stance: "It burns a lot of bridges that have been built in the past few years."

But Palestinian leaders in the occupied territories are equally dismayed by the response of the Israeli peace camp and bristle at criticism they call hypocritical and misguided.

"I don't see how a doctor who is sick can treat others," said Radwan Abu Ayyash, equating

Israel's 23-year occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip to Iraq's conquest of Kuwait.

Abu Ayyash, head of the Arab Journalists Association, and other Palestinian nationalists said they opposed the Iraqi occupation but backed Saddam's determination to counter U.S. involvement in an inter-Arab conflict.

Abu Ayyash and other nationalist leaders sought to explain, without endorsing, the exuberant Palestinian support for Iraq. Demonstrations have hailed Saddam as the future liberator of Palestine. Portraits of the Iraqi leader have appeared throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip this week.

Ghassan Al Khatib, a leftist West Bank academic, said Saddam had awakened pan-Arab feelings among Palestinians, who

resent the rich Gulf states for not contributing more to their cause and are bitter over U.S. support for Israel.

"There was also a feeling of anger and great disappointment due to the West's double standard... such as implementing (U.N.) Security Council decisions against Iraq while nothing was done regarding Israeli occupation," Khatib said.

Abu Ayyash said at least one Israeli member of parliament who signed the peace pledge had called to complain he did not understand how the Palestinian position on Iraq could help advance peace and understanding.

"We are willing to carry on our dialogue with Israelis who believe in the peace process," Abu Ayyash said.

"I feel it is time for the Israeli

peace movement to 'double' its effort rather than use the Palestinians' feelings as a pretext to stop the dialogue."

Some Israeli liberals, however, feel they need to be convinced anew that Palestinians desire only self-determination and not the elimination of Israel.

In a scathing attack, commentator Yaron London parted ways with the Palestinian leadership he had defended to a suspicious Israeli public. Addressing Abu Ayyash and his associates, London wrote in the mass-circulation daily Yedioth Ahronoth:

"So farewell to you... the authentic leaders. This week you proved to me that during many years I was a big fool and pretended to promote your aspirations, which were not your aspirations at all."

Iraq continues pullout

(Continued from page 1)

already prepared against the aggressive forces." Al Qaddisiyah said "weapons of mass destruction and strategic deterrence possessed by Iraq will be lying in wait to turn those who contemplate committing aggression into scattered pieces."

Thousands of volunteers were receiving training in the southern provinces, said Abu Al Aghani Abdul Ghafor, secretary of the southern bureau of the ruling Baath Party.

He said the number of volunteers in the southern provinces had reached 1,120,897. During its war with Iran, Iraq amassed a paramilitary peoples army of 850,000 men. This force was disbanded several months after the Gulf war ceasefire in August 1988.

Although fighting was halted under the United Nations-brokered ceasefire, Iran and Iraq made little progress towards a "final settlement before Saddam's surprise peace move."

The Iraqi leader promised to release prisoners, withdraw his troops from Iranian territory, and recognise the pre-war border run-

ning down the middle of the Shatt Al Arab waterway frontier between the countries and into the Gulf.

The Iraqi pullout is due to be completed Tuesday.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati has asked U.N. peace-keeping troops along the border to supervise the Iraqi withdrawal.

Tehran had insisted that Iraq's withdrawal from 2,500 square kilometres of Iranian territory should be first priority in moving towards a final peace accord after the U.N.-mediated ceasefire.

Iranian officials appealed to the Red Cross to arrange the daily repatriation of 5,000 Iraqi prisoners to speed up their return home.

Many prisoners have not been registered and the total number of captives is estimated at 100,000.

The Red Cross says it is drafting extra staff into both countries to supervise repatriation, but could only process about 1,000 POWs a day until they arrived. The Red Cross interviews prisoners to make sure they are not sent home against their will.

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Drive carefully!
Traffic can be hazardous

April 1990

Even being imprisoned is viewed differently

By Karin Lamb

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

Within what is called the heart of Jerusalem, in the heart of the city, are two jails that symbolise the struggle for this ancient land.

One held Jewish guerrillas who fought British rule in the Palestine of the 1940s. It is a museum now, with a plaque dedicated to "the heroes who fought against foreign rule."

The other, 300 metres across the compound, remains a jail, mainly for Palestinians fighting Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. It has no plaques, just prisoners' tales of beatings, torture and overcrowding.

In the 1960s, the Russian Orthodox Church built the two yellow brick buildings as part of a complex of hostels and a green-domed church for pilgrims to the Holy Land.

One day in July, dozens of Palestinian families crowded outside the jail, a block-long, one-story building topped by rolls of barbed wire. The Arabs call it Moskoviyeh, or Moscow.

An officer shouted the names of families who would be allowed to visit prisoners — four families at a time, 15 minutes per visit.

Many waited for hours, some in vain. Any who asked questions were pushed aside by officers.

Sayra Al Hamoni, 50, a gaunt woman from the Silwan district of Jerusalem, said she had come to see her 17-year-old son Bader, who was picked up two months ago.

Mrs. Hamoni, her hair covered by the white scarf of observant Muslim women, said Bader confessed to throwing stones at police after being beaten for 19 days. His nose was broken and he was often unconscious, said Mrs. Hamoni, who has eight other children.

"I brought him new clothes one day and they gave me the old ones," she said, wiping away tears. "I get sick each time I

see him."

Betselem, an Israeli human rights group, issued a report recently that said interrogators beat prisoners in the jail to extract confessions. It said the report was based on affidavits from Palestinians aged 18 and younger.

"Almost all the minors... testified that they had been beaten — generally very severely: slapping, punching, kicking, hair pulling, beating with clubs or with iron rods, pushing into walls and onto floors," according to the report.

It said some prisoners who were 16 or older told of interrogations by the Shin Bet security service after being locked in one of three special cells.

Prisoners have given each of the cells a name: the "closet," three feet wide and the height of a man; the "grave," a box in the ground covered by an iron door; and the "lockup," a cubicle less than five feet square with a toilet inside.

Najib, a 30-year-old Palestinian from Dheisheh, a West Bank Refugee Camp, told an Associated Press reporter he spent three months in the Moskoviyeh, including several days in the "lockup."

"It was very dark; I was forced to sit in the lockup with my hands tied behind my back," said Najib, who is tall and thin. He said he refused to confess to charges that he was recruiting for a radical PLO faction.

Police spokesman Uzi Sandori denied the existence of the three solitary-confinement cells. The Shin Bet has no spokesman to question about its role in the jail.

When asked about reports of beatings, Sandori cited a police response to the Betselem report that was published with it in June.

Superintendent Elinor Mazur said in that all complaints of police brutality were being investigated. She said police had not finished investigating six of the eight alleged beatings of minors Betselem

cited and that files of the other two cases had been given to the state prosecutor.

Sandori would not let the AP reporter see any of the jail's 22 cells. He said only humanitarian groups were allowed to visit.

Philip Veerman, a children's rights activist who toured the youth wing in March, said it was seriously overcrowded.

Eighty-three youngsters were held in four cells with 34 beds, Veerman said, and in one of the cells, 39 minors shared 12 beds and one toilet two Israelis were held separately in one cell, he said.

"I almost fainted from the terrible smell," said Veerman, who represents defence for Children International. "The air is stuffy and it is difficult to breathe. In the night, mattresses are spread out, but there is still not enough room."

In her response to the Betselem report, Mazur acknowledged "extreme overcrowding" and blamed it on the increased number of prisoners since the Palestinian uprising began in December 1987. She said the building was being renovated to create more space.

Jews call former jail across the compound Bevingrad, for Ernest Bevin, Britain's anti-Zionist foreign minister of the late 1940s.

As a museum, it is named "the shrine to heroism." School children visit it on tours and stare at the pictures of Jews executed by the British before Israel was founded in 1948.

Like the Moskoviyeh, the British jail originally was a hostel for Christian pilgrims. Its 10 solitary-confinement cells are still there and the gallows has been preserved, along with a death row cell where two condemned Jewish guerrillas committed suicide.

On April 21, 1947, Meir Feinstein and Moshe Barzani embraced and ignited an explosives-filled orange pressed to their hearts. They died two hours before their scheduled hanging.

Arab League — The Arab League voted (twelve of 20 members) to send an Arab force to Saudi Arabia to protect that country against possible Iraqi aggression. Gulf states, Egypt, Morocco and Syria have troops in Saudi Arabia to protect that country, or have promised to send troops. Mauritania and the Sudan voted for the Arab League resolution but expressed "reservations." Iraq, Libya and the Palestine Liberation Organisation voted against; Yemen, Jordan and Algeria abstained; Tunisia was absent.

Argentina — Condemned the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq and called for withdrawal of invading forces. Announced full compliance to United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

Aruba — Economic sanctions against Iraq.

Australia — Will take part in combined naval effort; will send two guided missile frigates and a supply ship to the Gulf. Promised to interdict Iraqi ships in the Gulf in support of United Nations sanctions. Oil and arms embargo, froze assets.

Austria — Enforced United Nations economic sanctions against Iraq; Arms embargo. Froze Iraqi assets. Authorised U.S. flights over Austrian territory.

Bahamas — Froze Iraqi and Kuwaiti assets.

Bangladesh — Decided in principle to send troops to Saudi Arabia in any confrontation with Iraq.

Belgium — Sending two minesweepers and a support ship to the Gulf. Oil embargo, froze Iraqi assets.

Belize — Condemned the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and called for withdrawal of invading forces.

Bermuda — Will follow British economic sanctions against Iraq; local financial sanctions also issued.

Bolivia — Supports United Nations sanctions against Iraq, Brazil — Oil and arms embargo. Cut off all commercial relations, excluding medical and food supplies for humanitarian use.

Bulgaria — Cut all military supplies to Iraq and will expand economic sanctions.

Canada — Will contribute two destroyers and a supply ship to the multinational force in the Gulf. Suspended economic and trade relations with Iraq.

Chile — Economic sanctions; arms embargo.

China — Arms embargo.

Colombia — Co-vice-president of the United Nations Sanctions Committee, which monitors sanctions compliance.

Costa Rica — Condemned Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Cyprus — Endorsed sanctions against Iraq.

Cuba — Will abide by United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

The world's reactions to Iraq's takeover of Kuwait

Nations sanctions against Iraq. Czechoslovakia — Arms embargo.

Denmark — Allowing merchant ships in the Gulf to act as supply vessels for the multinational force in Saudi Arabia. Supports Economic Community's sanctions against Iraq; oil embargo.

Economic Community — Imposing a general embargo on trade with Iraq and Kuwait.

Egypt — Has sent troops to join multinational force in Saudi Arabia.

Finland — Co-sponsored the U.N. Security Council resolution on sanctions. Fully implementing the U.N. measures including a complete trade embargo. Finland's ambassador to U.N. was appointed head of the group of nations monitoring compliance with U.N. sanctions against Iraq.

France — France will expand its naval force in the Gulf and send ground units and advisers to Saudi Arabia. Dispatched a frigate to join two warships in the Gulf. Co-sponsored United Nations Resolution on economic sanctions against Iraq. Oil and arms embargo; froze Iraqi assets; suspended trade except for medical and food supplies for humanitarian purposes.

Gambia — Condemned Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and called for withdrawal of forces.

German Democratic Republic — Will participate in economic sanctions; only food and medical supplies of a humanitarian nature will continue to be delivered.

Germany, Federal Republic — Will send minesweepers and a supply ship to the Mediterranean to protect shipping lanes. Offered U.S. use of bases in operations to protect against Iraq. Oil embargo; froze Iraqi assets. Local post offices stopped Aug. 16 all deliveries of letters or parcels to Iraq and Kuwait.

Great Britain — Will interdict ships in the Gulf trying to avoid the United Nations sanctions against Iraq. Oil and arms embargo. Froze Iraqi assets. Pledged military backing for U.S. in Saudi Arabia — offered U.S. use of bases to launch operations against Iraq. Sent warships to the Gulf area.

Greece — Will comply with Economic Community's sanctions against Iraq; Oil embargo. Allowing U.S. warplanes to fly over Greece en route to Gulf. Will not permit U.S. to use bases in Greece for any military action in the Middle East.

Gulf Cooperation Council — Condemned Iraqi aggression against Kuwait and called for withdrawal of Iraqi forces. Has troops in Saudi Arabia.

Haiti — Condemned Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Honduras — Repudiated the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and called for the withdrawal of invading forces.

Hong Kong — Froze Iraqi and Kuwaiti assets.

Iceland — Declared full support for United Nations economic sanctions against Iraq.

India — Called for withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

Indonesia — Trade with Iraq will be suspended; oil embargo.

Iran — Rejected the annexation of Kuwait by Iraq. Said it will boost oil production to offset losses from Iraq/Kuwait.

Ireland — Oil embargo.

Italy — Oil and arms embargo, froze Iraqi assets. Allowing U.S. use of bases in Italy.

Jamaica — Condemned invasion and will honour United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

Japan — Oil embargo, cut off all trade and aid.

Jordan — Will join in United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

Korea — Arms and oil embargo; suspended trade except for items for medical and humanitarian purposes.

Lebanon — Called for withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

Liberia — Will cooperate with United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

Liechtenstein — Froze Kuwaiti and Iraqi assets. Trade embargo except for medical and food supplies for humanitarian purposes.

Luxembourg — Oil embargo; froze Iraqi assets.

Macao — Will abide by United Nations sanctions.

Malaysia — Co-sponsored of United Nations resolution on sanctions against Iraq. Will fully cooperate with sanctions; froze Kuwaiti assets. Will increase oil production by 10,000 barrels a day to meet demand of countries dependent on Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil.

Maldives — Urged withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

Malta — Banned the issue of licenses for all exports to and imports from Iraq and Kuwait; licenses issued prior to sanctions were revoked.

Mexico — Plans to boost oil production for the next 2 months by 100,000 barrels a day.

Monaco — Under French authority regarding sanctions.

Morocco — Sending troops to Saudi Arabia to join multinational force.

NATO — Pledged to defend against Kuwait and called for withdrawal of Iraqi forces. Has troops in Saudi Arabia.

Nepal — Condemned Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Netherlands — Full financial sanctions against Iraq in place; oil embargo. Froze Iraqi assets. Will send two warships to the Gulf.

New Zealand — Ban on exports to Iraq; will ban imports. Diverting food shipments en route to Iraq. Oil embargo.

Nicaragua — Condemned the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq and called for withdrawal of invading forces.

Nigeria — Condemned Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and called for withdrawal of forces. Plans to boost oil production by 200,000 barrels a day (if other OPEC members agree).

Non-Aligned Movement — Condemned Iraq's use of force and called for the withdrawal of invading forces from Kuwait.

Norway — Trade embargo except for medical and food supplies for humanitarian purposes; oil embargo. Froze Kuwaiti and Iraqi assets.

Pakistan — Has pledged to send troops to join multinational force in Saudi Arabia.

Panama — Supports sanctions; has prohibited flag vessels from loading or unloading any type of merchandise from Iraq or Kuwait; banking authority has issued regulations dealing with Iraqi/Kuwaiti assets.

Paraguay — Condemned the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq.

Philippines — Acknowledged binding nature of sanctions; oil embargo.

Poland — Arms embargo.

Portugal — Allowing U.S. use of bases in Portugal. Oil embargo.

Romania — Will respect United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

Spain — Trade embargo.

Saudi Arabia — Asked U.S. and other nations for military assistance in defence of Saudi Arabia. Turned away an Iraqi tanker which tried to dock at a Saudi terminal in the Red Sea.

Singapore — Will abide by United Nations sanctions; will freeze Iraqi/Kuwaiti assets.

Solomon Islands — Will enforce economic sanctions against Iraq.

Soviet Union — Condemned annexation of Kuwait by Iraq. Arms embargo. Sent two warships to the Gulf. Would consider interdicting Iraqi shipping in the Gulf under the auspices of the United Nations.

Spain — Oil embargo. Allowing U.S. to use bases for operations to protect against Iraq.

Sweden — Supports United Nations sanctions; oil embargo.

Switzerland — Oil and arms embargo; froze assets; restricted other trade. First time Switzerland has associated itself with U.N.-imposed economic sanctions.

Syria — Will send ground troops to Saudi Arabia as part of multinational force.

Taiwan — Agreed to support United Nations sanctions against Iraq; oil embargo.

Thailand — Froze Iraqi and Kuwaiti assets.

Tunisia — Called for withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

Turkey — Froze Iraqi assets. Refused to allow ships to load Iraqi oil at terminus of Iraqi pipeline. Stopped two ships carrying food for Iraq from unloading in the southern port of Mersin. Trade embargo, exempting food and medical supplies. Parliament voted to authorise the government to declare war, send troops into combat and allow foreign forces on Turkish soil if attacked by Iraq.

United Arab Emirates — Prevented an Iraqi tanker from entering the port of Dubai.

United States — Sending U.S. military units to Saudi Arabia to protect that country against possible Iraqi aggression; nine warships and two aircraft carriers presently in the Gulf. Extends complete trade embargo against Iraq to include occupied Kuwait. Complete trade embargo against Iraq includes food shipments; suspended credits, loans and grants. Embargo modified to include banning exports to any entity operated from Iraq or owned or controlled by government of Iraq, either directly or indirectly. Froze Iraqi and Kuwaiti assets. U.S. Customs Agents seized \$8 million worth of spare-parts, satellite and computer equipment bound for Kuwait and Iraq. The Federal Bureau of Investigation sealed Iraqi Airlines offices in New York, Detroit, and Los Angeles. U.S. will interdict Iraqi oil shipments in the Gulf area in support of United Nations sanctions.

Uruguay — Will take necessary steps to comply with U.N. sanctions.

Vatican — Praised United Nations resolution on sanctions against Iraq.

Venezuela — Will cooperate with United Nations sanctions against Iraq. Plans to boost oil production by 400,000 barrels a day, consulting with other OPEC nations.

Yugoslavia — Condemned Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and called on Iraq to withdraw all forces from Kuwait; refused to recognise Iraqi annexation of Kuwait.

Zimbabwe — Economic sanctions against Iraq.

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Iraq to 'host' foreigners

(Continued from page 1)

to withhold food from the foreigners it is holding, the president's spokesman said Saturday.

Bush, brushing off reporters' questions at his vacation retreat in Maine, said he no longer will discuss "serious matters" like the Gulf crisis while playing golf.

The massive U.S. military build-up against Iraq in the Middle East coincided with the president's annual seaside vacation, which he decided to cut short only a few days.

"It's just not a good thing to keep doing it like this. But I'll try to be available," Bush said earlier in the day in answer to reporters' questions.

The White House statement said that Iraq's holding foreign citizens is "totally unacceptable." The United States decried the use of "innocent civilians as pawns" in Iraq's stand against international sanctions.

Bush, who Fitzwater said is "deeply concerned" about the crisis, called on Iraq to immediately reconsider its refusal to let the foreigners leave.

He also said Bush "is deeply troubled by the indication that Iraqi authorities intend to relocate these individuals within Iraq against their will."

"The use of innocent civilians as pawns to promote what Iraq sees to be its self-interest is contrary to international law and indeed to all accepted norms of international conduct," the spokesman said.

"We urge that Iraq immediately reconsider its refusal to allow any foreign national desiring to leave to do so without delay or condition," Fitzwater said.

France warned Iraq of "serious consequences" if 500 French nationals in Iraq and Kuwait are harmed by being used as human shields or deprived of food and medicine.

The Foreign Ministry summoned Iraqi Ambassador Abdul Razzak Al Hashimi to vent indignation over Iraq's decision to use citizens of "aggressive nations" as insurance against attack by holding them in likely targets.

"The ambassador of Iraq was asked to put his authorities on guard against the serious consequences that would follow if the security of our nationals is affected," a ministry spokesman said.

... Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber said, quoted by the KUNA news agency run by his ousted government.

The report was sent to Reuters from the KUNA office in Paris. Kuwait has 36 combat fighters, according to the London-based international institute of strategic studies.

It had not been clear whether Kuwaiti planes had been able to escape the invasion, although some were reported in action against Iraqi forces from bases in Bahrain and Saudi Arabia.

Kuwait's air force also had 18 attack helicopters which are assumed to have been captured or destroyed.

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Yugoslavia, Soviets to play in basketball championships final

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Drazen Petrovic showed why he's one of international basketball's top players and Yugoslavia demonstrated again why it is thought to be the best team.

Yugoslavia advanced to the gold medal game of the world basketball championships with an impressive 99-91 victory over the United States Friday as Petrovic, the NBA's second-best 3-point shooter last season, scored 31 points in as many minutes.

The Soviet Union (6-1) beat Puerto Rico 98-82 in the other semifinal and it will face Yugoslavia (6-1) Sunday in a rematch of the gold medal game from the Seoul Olympics, won by the Soviets 76-63. It will also give the Soviets a chance to avenge a 100-77 quarterfinal-round loss here.

The United States (5-2) was to meet Puerto Rico (6-1) Saturday for the bronze medal.

Yugoslavia was the favorite coming into the world championships and it's playing that role to the fullest, having added Petrovic, who plays for the Portland Trail Blazers, and Vlade Divac of the Los Angeles Lakers to the roster that won the Goodwill Games last month with an 85-79 victory over the United States.

"I thought our team played very well. If we didn't play well we would have lost by 30 points," U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski

said. "I thought they were the best team coming in and they played every bit like it."

As Petrovic made six of ten 3-pointers, Toni Kukoc, the second-round draft choice of the Chicago Bulls this year, had 19 points, a team-high six rebounds and nine assists. Zarko Paspalj, who played for the San Antonio Spurs last season, added 15 points and made all three of his 3-point attempts, while reserve center Zoran Savic had 14 points.

"Kukoc gives them a different dimension nobody else has," Krzyzewski said. "They have four guys who can handle the ball. They basically have an extra guard, so they score a lot of points in transition."

The United States scored its points in the paint against Yugoslavia, and Alonzo Mourning led the way with 26.

The United States has not won a major international tournament since the last world championships, held in Spain in 1986.

Since then, there was the Pan Am Games gold medal loss to Brazil, the Olympic bronze medal after a semifinal loss to the Soviet Union, and last month's gold medal loss in Seattle.

The last three were simply losses to better teams, with team being the key word.

"They've been playing well the whole tournament and they played even better today," Mourning

said of Yugoslavia. "You can't compare their experience to ours, eight years to a month and a half, but they are a totally better basketball team."

Kenny Anderson, Billy Owens and Chris Gatling added 12 points each for the United States, which shot 62 per cent from the field for the game (37-for-60).

Meanwhile Valeri Tikhonenko scored 26 points Friday night as the Soviet Union advanced to the gold medal game of the championships.

The Soviet Union appeared to be in trouble against Puerto Rico when its best player, Alexander Volkov who plays for the Atlanta Hawks, fouled out with 10:57 to play and the score tied at 65.

The Soviets, however, responded with an 8-0 run over the next 2:08 and Puerto Rico was never closer than six points the rest of the way.

Puerto Rico, which handed Yugoslavia its only loss here, relied on its physical strength throughout the tournament, but the Soviets were able to exploit its lack of speed, especially in the backcourt.

Volkov and Sergei Bazarevich each had 16 points for the Soviets, who had six players in double figures.

Edgar Leon's 22 points led Puerto Rico, which had five players foul out of the game.

Greece 81, Argentina 78

Panagiotis Giannakis scored 36

points and made two crucial free throws with 1:50 to play to lead Greece to an 81-78 victory over Argentina in the classification round of the World Basketball Championships.

The win advanced Greece (3-4) into the fifth-place game Sunday against Brazil, which defeated Australia 100-93. Argentina meets Australia Saturday in the game to decide seventh place.

Playing before a partisan and noisy home crowd, the Argentines jumped to a 39-24 lead with six minutes to play in the first half.

But Argentina's Sebastian Uranga, who at that point had 17 points on 6-of-6 shooting from the field and 5-of-6 from the free throw line, began a dreadful slump. He scored just three points the rest of the way, making one of his last seven field-goal attempts.

Greece, which then closed the first half with a 16-5 run, took a 57-52 lead four minutes into the second half. The lead changed hands eight times before Giannakis' free throws put Greece ahead 77-75. Panagiotis Fasoulis flipped in a layup with 1:17 to go, increasing the lead to four.

After Argentina's Hector Campana sank a 3-pointer with 44.7 seconds remaining, Greece nursed the one-point lead by dribbling out the clock and ending the game with a dunk by Nassos Galakteros at the buzzer.

Navratilova to face Garrison in Los Angeles semifinals

MANHATTAN BEACH, California (AP) — Top-seeded Martina Navratilova won the first eight games and beat unseeded Kathy Rinaldi 6-0, 6-1 in the quarterfinals of the Virginia Slims of Los Angeles Women's Tennis Tournament.

Earlier Friday, second-seeded Monica Seles struggled to beat ninth-seeded Amy Frazier 2-6, 6-2, 7-5. Fourth-seeded Zina Garrison routed unseeded Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria 6-1, 6-1, and unseeded Mary Joe Fernandez beat unseeded Stephanie Rehe 7-5, 6-2. Rehe, who underwent back surgery 13 months ago, had upset no. 3 Gabriela Sabatini Thursday.

In a rematch of the Wimbledon final, Navratilova will face Garrison in the semifinals. Seles will play Fernandez.

Rinaldi avoided being blanked when she broke Navratilova's service in the third game of the second set.

"I expected her to play well," Navratilova said of Rinaldi. "I know her forehand is better than her backhand so I was putting pressure on that. She made more errors from the baseline because she knew I was coming in."

Navratilova beat Garrison last month to win her record ninth Wimbledon singles title.

Seles rebounded from her first-set defeat and won the last three games of the second set to pull even. The two traded breaks in the fifth and sixth games of the third set for a 3-3 tie, and held serve until Frazier had four break points on Seles in the ninth. That game went to deuce two times, but Seles held on. Seles broke Frazier to win the match.

Seles, the French Open winner, is ranked no. 3. Frazier is no. 18.

Garrison needed only 58 minutes to eliminate Maleeva. Garrison lost the first game of the second set while serving, then



Martina Navratilova

won six straight games.

"I expected a tougher match," Garrison said. "I jumped on her at the beginning and things just kept rolling. It kind of looked to me like she was out there, but not really there. I put pressure on her."

Fernandez won the last two games of the first set at love and won the last four games of the second set to eliminate Rehe.

"I think she's strong now. She hits harder and she's more aggressive," Fernandez said of Rehe. "She's always been a dangerous player because she's so mentally tough. I'm happy I got through this game. It was hard to get any rhythm out there. Her problem was she attacked at the wrong times."

Rehe said her upset victory over Sabatini and her doubles play had drained her. "I was a little off," she said. "My focus wasn't there today. I was missing by a hair, but just give me a few more matches. I think I was drained from yesterday. I'm still high from that."

"I did make some errors but I'm always going to go for it," Rehe said.

Agassi falls, Becker escapes upset in hardcourts games

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Andre Agassi, the second seed, lost to Peter Lundgren of Sweden 6-4, 6-0 in the U.S. Hardcourts Tournament.

In another match, fourth-seeded Jay Berger won down 3-1, 6-2, 6-1, 6-3 quarterfinal victory.

Evernden, ranked 78th in the world, had little energy after his 6-2, 6-4 upset of fifth-seeded John McEnroe, the defending champion, in Thursday's third round.

"After the first set, I was just a step slow. He started moving me around... so that I had to really move my feet. I couldn't do it," said Evernden.

Top-seeded Boris Becker was matched against no. 8 Jim Courier Friday night.

Earlier, no. 14 Richey Reneberg advanced to Saturday's semifinals by upsetting eighth-seeded Pete Sampras 3-6, 6-1, 7-6 (7-0).

Berger led Evernden 4-3, 30-love on his serve when he committed three straight unforced errors. Evernden swept seven of the next eight points over two games to break Berger and hold serve for a 5-4 lead. He won the set 7-5.

Berger broke Evernden three times in the second set, allowing his opponent just 13 points. The world's 11th-ranked player collected two breaks in the final set, and served a 40-love game to win the match. Evernden, who fol-

lowed the McEnroe upset with a three-set doubles victory Thursday night, said he wasn't ready for Friday's two-hour match in extreme humidity after getting five hours sleep.

"I live in Naples, Florida, and I know probably 10 people, and I got 700 phone calls from Naples," he said. "It became a bit of a circus. Next time I beat John, I'll just take my phone off the hook."

Reneberg also needed two hours and three sets to beat Sampras for the second time this year.

The two players split sets, then traded service breaks in the third. Trailing 3-4 and love-40, Reneberg took his 19-year-old opponent to deuce three times before his backhand volley winner evened the set at three games apiece.

Reneberg, who beat Sampras in three sets at Indian Wells last winter, won the third-set tiebreaker 7-0. Sampras committed five unforced errors and Reneberg closed the match with an ace.

"This is definitely the most consistent week in my career," said Reneberg, a 24-year-old from Houston.

Agassi, the number two seed, sent shots flying in every direction in the second set as it took Lundgren only 56 minutes to reach the semifinals.

Becker claimed his semifinals spot when Courier was forced to retire with severe cramps with the West German leading 4-6, 7-5, 3-1.

Curry knocks out Martinez in IBF fight

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Donald Curry knocked out Jose Duran Martinez in the fourth round of their middleweight main event and earned a shot at the International Boxing Federation (IBF) title.

Curry finished Martinez Friday night with a right uppercut to the head at 2:35 of the fourth. The fight was scheduled for 10 rounds.

Curry, the former world welterweight and World Boxing Council (WBC) superwelterweight champion, is the No. 1

IBF middleweight contender and will meet champion Michael Nunn on Oct. 18 in Paris.

Martinez, 156 pounds (70.7 kilograms), was ahead 29-28 on two of the judge's scorecards while Curry, 159 (72 kilograms), led by that score on the other judge's card. Martinez was fighting for only the third time in more than five years.

Curry, of the U.S., improved to 33-3 with 24 knockouts. Martinez, of Puerto Rico, fell to 15-5, six by knockout.

In a preliminary bout, Rafael

Ruelas of the U.S. stopped Job Walters of the U.S. in the ninth round of their featherweight fight scheduled for 10 rounds.

Referee Toby Gibson pulled Ruelas off a battered, bruised and bleeding Walters at 2:10 of the ninth. Ruelas, 20-0, knocked down Walters, 12-5, with a left to the head in the first round.

Two of the judges had Ruelas leading by five points through eight rounds while the third judge had him leading by three points. Both Ruelas and Walters weighed 57 kilograms.

Banke stops Lee to retain WBC title

SEOUL (R) — Paul Banke of the United States stopped South Korean challenger Lee Ki-Jun in the closing minute of the 12th and final round Saturday to retain his World Boxing Council (WBC) super-bantamweight title.

Scores of riot police had to escort the Mexican referee out of the ring as angry South Koreans threw bottles at him, protesting at his stopping the fight briefly in the eighth round for a foul as Lee was landing a storm of unanswered blows.

The referee stopped the fight

for good in the closing minute after Banke had twice sent Lee to the canvas.

Banke, making his first defence of the title he captured from Mexico's Daniel Zaragoza in April, battled from the eighth round with his tight eye almost completely closed.

"It was a damn good fight. I'm glad I won today," a badly bruised Banke said afterwards.

Lee, one year younger than the champion at 25, delighted the raucous capacity crowd as he went straight at Banke from the

first bell and traded a series of close-quarter blows.

The bout appeared to be going Lee's way until the 11th round when Banke, after taking three rounds of one-way traffic, floored the South Korean with a short right and a left counter.

The bell saved Lee but Banke went out quickly in the final round to knock him down twice.

The fight improved Banke's professional record to 20 wins, 11 within the distance, against four defeats.

Garza gains WBA super lightweight title

NICE, France (AP) — American Loretto Garza gained the World Boxing Association (WBA) super lightweight title by defeating Argentine Juan Martin Coggi of Argentina on points Friday in a 12-round fight.

Garza, scoring with rights throughout the fight, gained his first world title in his first attempt. He has been the U.S. champion since February.

Coggi had won the crown in 1987 over Italian Patrizio Olive and had successfully defended it four times. However, his last two bouts were non-title fights in France in which he easily beat unranked opponents.

Garza was the No. 1 WBA challenger and beat Coggi handily although Coggi came on in the late rounds to tighten the score.

Garza is now 27-1-1 while Coggi drops to 45-2-2.

The 28-year-old Garza won two cards and the third judge called it even. Referee Ernesto Magana of Mexico had it 116-115 and Judge Jesus Celis of Venezuela scored it 116-114 for Garza. Another Venezuelan, Julio Rolan tied it at 115 apiece.

Garza took command from the start and kept moving in as Coggi was slow to get into the match.

Garza scored with combinations in the first two rounds then became more aggressive as a long right kept connecting.

The right, both hooks and straight shots, scored a number of times over the middle rounds, keeping Garza in front as Coggi failed to mount an offensive. The Argentine looked bewildered as

his attacks were often cut short by a Garza right.

Coggi had a slight cut on his nose after the third while Garza showed some blood from the corner of his left eye by the eighth round but there was never any real damage or knockdowns through the fight.

By the ninth round Coggi had abandoned his tactic of staying back and moved in. Garza, slowing up, fought him off in the ninth and 10th but Coggi took the advantage in the last two rounds.

A late rally by the Argentine had Garza against the ropes in each of the rounds but the American was able to get out of trouble before any serious damage, to conserve his chances for the victory.

War between Maradona, Italian fans set to continue

IMOLA, Italy (AP) — Argentine star Diego Armando Maradona, known for his swiftness on the soccer field, was stopped for speeding on an Italian highway, and his luxury Ferrari was seized.

Police stopped the star forward and captain of the Italian team Napoli as he drove the Naples-Bologna Autostrade en route to training camp Thursday.

Maradona, who is also a member of the Argentine national team, confirmed that police seized the car after officers found the vehicle's documents were not in order. Maradona was fined 1 million lire (\$910).

Maradona, who then took a taxi to the training camp, told Milan's sports daily Gazzetta dello Sport that he left the car behind to avoid losing time in a dispute over it.

"I wanted to reach my teammates as soon as possible. I will solve the car problem in a few days. The documents need only to be renewed," Maradona was quoted as saying.

Maradona's black Testarossa model is worth about 400 million lire (\$360,000) and already caused him some trouble during

this summer's World Cup championship in Italy.

He was involved in a scuffle outside the training camp of Tricolori with security policemen who had stopped Diego's younger brother Lalo in the sports car. Maradona's brother had been unable to produce a driving licence and identity papers.

That incident is being investigated by a Rome judge who will decide if any charge will be filed.

Maradona, who returned to Italy Sunday after a vacation at home, also told Gazzetta dello Sport that he was not worried he might face hostile crowds when the Italian season begins Sept. 9.

Maradona antagonized many Italian fans during the World Cup, which saw his national team eliminate Italy. Among his controversial remarks were comments accusing northern Italy of being prejudiced against the south, which includes Naples. He was often whistled and jeered by opposing fans at the championship.

"Whistles will not depress me. On the contrary I may play better," Maradona said. "I only care

about the support of Neapolitan fans."

Naples is gearing up for its bid for a third Italian title and its first-ever European Champions Cup.

The battle of curses and recriminations, of charges and counter-charges that burst out during the world championships in Italy will enter a new phase when the Italian League season opens on Sept. 9.

Already, hostile crowds have booed and jeered at Napoli, during preseason games in northern Italy.

The shouts and slogans against the Argentine star and his defending-champion club were loud and persistent in Reggio Emilia, Padua, Trento and Asiago earlier this month — even though Maradona was nowhere in sight.

Club officials fear harder times once the Argentine captain is back in the Naples lineup and want the Italian Soccer Federation to get tough with abusive fans.

"The federation must defend Napoli against increasing groups

of foolish people. Serious disturbances may occur if our fans and players are insulted at any game," Napoli General Manager Luciano Moggi said.

Italian clubs are held responsible for their fans' behavior and can be fined or banned from home games in case of disturbances.

Racial issues have become a thorny topic in Italy following the growing number of black immigrants and the success at recent regional elections of political groups opposing the central government's immigration policy.

The controversy intensified when Italian fans whistled at Maradona and the Argentine national anthem during the World Cup opener in Milan on June 8, and after Argentina eliminated Italy in the semifinals.

Maradona caused further debate before that game when he called on Neapolitan fans to cheer for Argentina against their national team.

Following Italy's elimination, fans openly supported West Germany in the final against Argentina and Maradona ended the match beaten and in tears.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY AUGUST 19, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a good day to investigate all that you don't clearly understand and to get a new point of view where close associates and concerned. Don't waste time on quarrelsome women.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Be open-minded and ready to accept into your life interesting persons who are exciting and mental as well as renew some proven friendships.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You quietly get a new inspiration for getting into ventures by which you will be able to have far more satisfactory relations with business persons.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Think about how you can join your efforts with friends and acquaintances as well as with outside associates so you advance your present status.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Your greatest opportunities today are to get some new ways to advance your prestige and standing in the community by the projects you are involved in.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Whatever you have in mind of an entertainment or recreational nature should include some different entertainments that can bring you benefits also.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Consider well your present way of handling your practical arrange-

ment and study periodicals and other sources for ways to improve them.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You have a chance, which you must do something about if you are to obtain the potential benefits to meet some vitally important public figures.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) A good day to get into whatever business activities face you with confidence and to show you are an expert in your particular field with a dash.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Now is the day for you to get into whatever special talent absorbs you and bring it to the attention of those able to push its progress.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Whatever requires a fresh new attack at your home to bring more zip and zest there is excellent so put on your thinking cap for this purpose.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A great day to use a chance now present to get out of whatever rut into which you are grooved and to be wide awake to all sorts or better outlets.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Put your time and energies now on the material aspects of your existence and show you are the one who is open to new way to increase income.

THE BETTER HALF

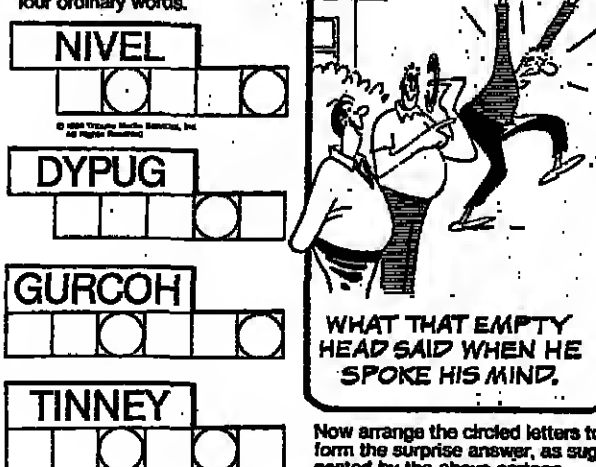
By Harris



"Someone hit me in the stomach 20 years ago and I'm still waiting for the swelling to go down."

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

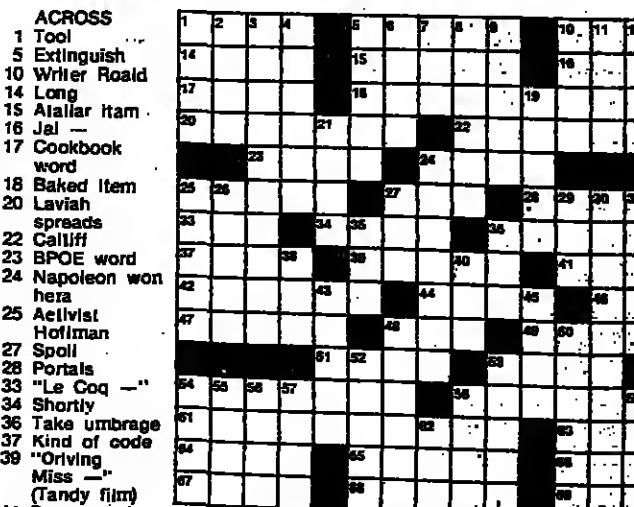
(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PRIOR AGENT NAUGHT TROUGH

Answer: Ha always bought things that ran into money, and now -- HE'S RUN OUT OF IT

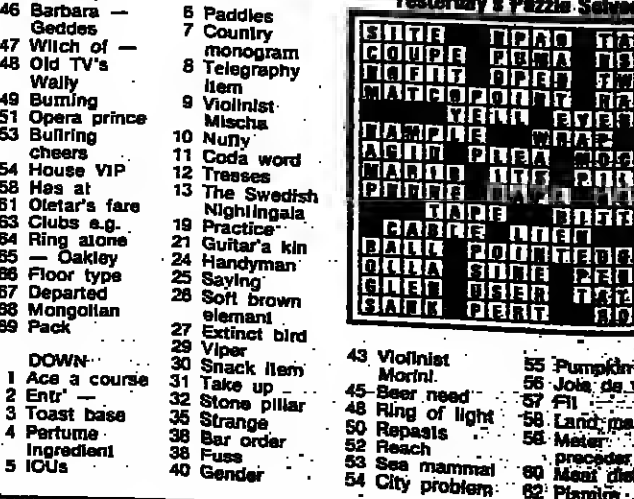
THE Daily Crossword

by Bernice Gordon



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Yesterday's Puzzle Subject



GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMARA HIRSCH
© 1990 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

THAT SPECIAL BRAND OF MAGIC

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 7 2
♥ J 3
♦ K 8 4
♣ A 6 2

EAST
♠ 9 6 5
♥ K 4
♦ J 9 3
♣ 9 7 3

WEST
♠ 9 6 5
♥ K 4
♦ J 9 3
♣ 9 7 3

SOUTH
♠ A K J 10 4 3
♥ A Q 5
♦ A Q 10 9 7 5
♣ 10 7 6 2

The bidding:
South 1♣ West 2♣ North 2♥ East 3♥ Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠
When Trump Card Tommy played in the club Pro-Am night event, it was open to debate whether he was there as the pro or the amateur. As readers of this column are aware, Tommy blundered his way through bridge, except in one rare instance. When trumps broke badly, Tommy was suddenly transformed into a master of technique.

The evening started well for Tommy. On the first board he played, he reached a normal four spade con-

tract on the auction showed. South's jump to three spades showed a suit good enough to play regardless of support, as well as some extra values, and North's raise to game had nothing to spare, but was clear-cut.

West attacked with the king of hearts and the defenders took their two tricks in the suit. When East persevered with hearts, Tommy ruffed with the ten and West defended superbly, discarding a diamond rather than overruffing.

It looked like an uninteresting hand until Tommy cashed the ace of spades and discovered there was a danger of losing two trump tricks. A lesser mortal might have been daunted, but to Tommy the hand had suddenly become child's play.

The ace and king of clubs were cashed, followed by a club ruff. Reading the situation accurately, Tommy cashed the ace and king of diamonds and then ruffed another club, reducing his trump length to one fewer than West's.

When Tommy exited with the queen of diamonds, West was a goner. Down to nothing but trumps, West was forced to ruff and then lead a trump into Tommy's king-jack tenace. As was so often the case with Tommy's opponents, a seemingly sure trump trick had vanished into thin air.

Toujan Fayçal

Le calvaire d'une militante courageuse

Depuis des mois, Toujan Fayçal est sans emploi. Toutes les portes, publiques ou privées, se ferment devant elle comme devant son mari. Menacée de mort et de dissolution de son mariage, elle se retrouve aujourd'hui mise au ban de la société et

marginalisée. Son seul crime: avoir été candidate aux élections législatives de novembre dernier au nom des droits de la femme. Portrait-interview d'une combattante résolue, même dans l'adversité.

Elle est très connue en Jordanie... Surtout par certains fanatiques. Ouvrez bien vos yeux et surtout ne craignez rien, car, en vérité, cette femme est comme toutes les autres: belle, élégante, raffinée, juste un peu en avance sur le plan des idées.

Toujan Al-Fayçal est âgée de 41 ans et mère de trois enfants. Elle est titulaire d'un Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies (DEA) de littérature anglaise. D'origine circassienne, elle était candidate aux élections parlementaires de novembre dernier au titre de la communauté tcherkesse. Elle est journaliste et son mari est gynécologue.

Le Jourdain: «Comment vous définissez-vous?»

Toujan Fayçal: «Dès ma prime enfance, j'ai commencé à m'intéresser à la littérature grecque et romaine; mais l'essentiel de ma pensée actuelle trouve son origine dans les œuvres de Sartre et

celles de son école, l'existentialisme. Cela dit, j'attache aussi une grande importance à ce que j'appelle la culture au bon sens du terme: la culture pratique, qu'on acquiert dans la vie de tous les jours, par l'expérience personnelle et l'adaptation aux circonstances.

Quand on m'interroge sur mon identité, je me définis volontiers comme une citoyenne voulant travailler non pas uniquement pour la Jordanie mais pour le monde entier. Le monde est mon village, pour reprendre une phrase célèbre. Il est bien évident, d'ailleurs, que les droits de la femme pour lesquels je me bats doivent s'appliquer en Jordanie aussi bien qu'en France ou ailleurs. La femme est partout la même, quelle que soit sa couleur ou sa religion.

LJ: «Les femmes représentent la moitié de la population. Quel rôle doivent elles jouer sur le plan

politique?»

TF: «Elles doivent avant tout peser leur candidature pour montrer qu'elles sont des citoyens à part entière, sans se dire que la partie est perdue d'avance à cause de la différence de sexe. La fonction politique n'a ni sexe, ni âge. On ne doit considérer que les intérêts de la patrie. Je déteste avec tristesse toutes les femmes qui attendent la pitié des hommes. On sait où mène cette attitude: nous n'avons personne pour nous défendre au parlement.

Je remarque d'ailleurs que les quelques 1.400 voix que j'ai obtenues difficilement dans ma circonscription viennent en majorité des hommes et non des femmes. Et cela malgré l'affaire scandaleuse que l'on m'a mise sur le dos. On m'a accusée sans la moindre preuve d'avoir incité les Jordanien(ne)s à se marier quatre fois comme le font leurs maris. Pour répondre à cette accusation injuste, je dis seulement que l'Islam a un point de vue sur la question que je ne partage absolument pas.

Toujan a les larmes aux yeux lorsqu'elle évoque cette affaire, «je sens qu'on a violé mes droits», dit-elle, mais elle ajoute aussitôt: «c'est un honneur pour moi que d'avoir subi cette injustice, car au moins j'ai ouvert les yeux de tout le monde sur ce qu'on fait au nom de l'Islam.

J'ai perdu beaucoup de choses. Aucun établissement, ni public ni privé, ne veut plus m'offrir un emploi malgré mon diplôme et mon expérience. Quand je vais frapper à la porte d'un organisme pour trouver un job, on me répond partout qu'on ne veut pas avoir de problèmes, sans préciser bien sûr le comment et le pourquoi des choses. D'ailleurs, mon mari a pratiquement les mêmes problèmes que les miens. Et ce n'est pas tout. Combien de fois m'a-t-on dit: à mots plus ou moins couverts, que je ne méritais pas de vivre. On m'a condamné à mort 'issim' jugement' ni procès. Des centaines de gens vont jusqu'à considérer que mon mariage est devenu illégal. A ceux là, j'ai parfois envie de répondre: contrôlez un peu vos émotions et faites un peu de place à la logique, qu'il se soit fait de si grave pour mériter d'être ainsi persécutée? Défendre la population féminine de Jordanie?

Je n'ai jamais été contre les hommes. Mon mariage est un mariage d'amour. L'homme est pour moi à la fois un mari, un frère et un fils. Et puis, j'ai toujours été influencée par des hommes: écrivains, hommes politiques, travailleurs ou autres. Pourquoi serais-je contre eux? C'est injuste de me reprocher



Une femme comme les autres, juste un peu en avance sur le plan des idées.

ples pressions. Je dirais même que la femme d'ici n'a presque pas l'autorité de prendre une décision à la maison. Comment voulez-vous qu'elle fasse un choix conscient et indépendant dans des affaires aussi compliquées que les élections parlementaires.

Cela ne veut pas forcément dire pour autant que les femmes sont à tout jamais incapables de choisir enfin la voie du succès pour accéder à la place qui leur est due et obtenir une reconnaissance normale dans la société. Mais ce n'est pas facile. Il faut mouiller la chemise.

LJ: «Connaît-on une telle évolution peut-être réalisée?»

TF: «J'estime que le pourcentage de femmes décidant librement du candidat pour lequel elles votent ne dépasse pas 10% actuellement. Mais je ne désespère pas que ce chiffre augmente, même chez les paysannes. Pour ce faire, il nous faut développer leur conscience, éduquer sérieusement les programmes des différents candidats et faire preuve de bonne foi. Franchement, c'est exactement ce qui manque aux femmes aujourd'hui. Il faut aussi créer un courant politique d'opposition. Sans quoi, tout pas en avant est exclu.

LJ: «Selon vous, est-ce que les récentes élections parlementaires se sont déroulées dans des condi-

tions parfaitement démocratiques?»

TF: «La liberté est encore loin. Nous subissons toujours le poids des anciennes traditions. J'ai en tête une phrase célèbre selon laquelle ce n'est jamais le dictateur qui s'impose à un peuple, mais c'est le peuple qui permet ou favorise la dictature. Cette phrase résume tout. L'accès à la démocratie ne peut passer que par la liberté d'expression de la femme comme de l'homme. Je dirais même de la femme avant l'homme.

LJ: «Croyez-vous vraiment que l'homme est, en général, pour la liberté de la femme? Est-il sincèrement convaincu qu'il y a nécessité de la considérer comme un citoyen comme les autres?»

TF: «Une petite minorité y croit. D'autres le déclarent pour gagner une campagne électorale et cessent de le penser après avoir atteint leur but. Certains vont même jusqu'à considérer la femme comme quelque chose d'étrange, surtout si elle se lance dans des actions inhabituelles. Moi-même, on m'a attaquée dans tous les médias. Certains candidats ont même pas voulu participer à un débat politique en ma présence. Est-ce vraiment ça la démocratie?»

Propos recueillis par Osama Al-Qudah

CLIN

D'OEIL

Ordre!

Le cheikh de la Maison Blanche se tourne vers La Mecque. Saddam Hussein se tourne vers l'Iran. L'Europe de l'Ouest se tourne vers son alter ego de l'est. La Chine tourne en rond. Seul Mikhaïl Gorbatchev se tourne vers Washington, en passant par Malte...

Est-ce à dire que tout le monde a perdu le sens de l'orientation? Pas forcément. Car l'enjeu, c'est ce nouvel ordre politique et économique dans lequel chacun ambitionne de retrouver un bon rang. Mais voilà, les Etats-Unis ont LEUR vision de l'ordre. LEURS règles du jeu aussi. Ils l'ont fait comprendre tambour battant dans le Golfe. En tant que protecteurs des lieux saints du pétrole bien entendu!

La «morale» de cette histoire est que certaines puissances coloniales redécouvrent brusquement avec l'Amérique le sens de la légitimité internationale. Il était grand temps...

Ayman Masamant

EN BREF

Accident. Un avion de l'armée de l'air jordanienne s'est écrasé au sol mardi soir au cours d'une séance d'entraînement de routine. Son pilote est décédé des suites de l'accident, provoqué par une défaillance technique.

Papier. Le journal iranien Ressalat a cessé de paraître depuis samedi pour une durée indéterminée, en raison d'une pénurie de papier. Ressalat, qui a été au centre de violentes polémiques avec les durs du régime islamique, notamment pour ses prises de position qualifiées d'«anti-révolutionnaires», a toujours défendu l'idée d'une économie libérale où le rôle prépondérant serait dévolu au marché et au secteur privé.

Noirs. Les affrontements entre partisans du Congrès National Africain (ANC) et de l'Inkhata, qui ont fait 150 morts depuis dimanche dernier dans trois townships du sud-est de Johannesburg, en Afrique du Sud, ont gagné jeudi matin l'immense agglomération noire de Soweto ainsi que Johannesburg. D'après des témoins, une foule de 300 à 400 personnes armées de machettes de lances et de matraques a attaqué les passagers qui se trouvaient dans une gare du centre de Soweto après les avoir fait descendre d'un train.

Canada. Un accord est intervenu dimanche dernier entre les autorités canadiennes et les indiens Mohawks pour l'ouverture de négociations. Depuis plus d'un mois, ces indiens armés sont retranchés dans un bois à Oka (nord-ouest de Montréal) encerclés par la police. L'accord entérine les trois conditions préalables que posaient les Mohawks pour le début des négociations. Ils exigent le libre accès aux vivres, vêtements, médicaments et soins médicaux, la présence d'observateurs étrangers, ainsi que la libre circulation des conseillers juridiques, mères de clan et autres représentants spirituels indiens.

Prison. Au moins 47 personnes -12 gardiens et 35 détenus- ont été blessées lors d'une émeute qui a éclaté mardi dans une prison de New-York, paralysée par des gardiens qui protestaient contre le passage à tabac d'un surveillant par des prisonniers. «Nous sommes tabassés et frappés de coups de couteaux et de rasoirs jour et nuit, c'est la raison de notre action», a déclaré un responsable des gardiens. Les émeutiers ont cassé des canalisations et des fenêtres, et les gardiens ont fait usage de gaz lacrymogène.

USA-URSS. Le président George Bush a annoncé lundi sa décision de supprimer les restrictions d'entrée et de séjour des hommes d'affaires soviétiques aux Etats-Unis. Ces restrictions portaient sur le nombre d'hommes d'affaires soviétiques autorisés à séjourner en Amérique. M. Bush a déclaré qu'il espérait que Gorbatchev s'assurerait que les efforts américains seraient accompagnés d'amélioration réciproque en ce qui concerne le climat dans lequel travaillent les hommes d'affaires américains en URSS.

URSS. Le président soviétique Mikhaïl Gorbatchev a rétabli dans leur droit toutes les victimes des répressions politiques commises entre les années vingt et cinquante. Il lève toutes les accusations portées à l'encontre des paysans pendant la collectivisation et les rétablit totalement dans leurs droits. Il en est de même pour tous les autres citoyens condamnés pour des motifs politiques, sociaux, nationaux, religieux et autres.

Citoyenneté. Gorbatchev a rendu la citoyenneté soviétique à un certain nombre d'individus exilés de force entre 1966 et 1988. Il s'agit principalement de musiciens, d'artistes et d'écrivains, parmi lesquels l'écrivain russe Alexandre Soljenitsyne, qui a déjà accepté de reprendre la citoyenneté soviétique. Les 400.000 personnes ayant émigré en Israël, qui ont automatiquement perdu leur citoyenneté, ne sont pas concernées par cette décision du chef du Kremlin.

RDA. Le premier ministre-est-allemand Lothar de Maizière a limogé son ministre social-démocrate (SED) des finances, tenu pour un des responsables de la dégradation du climat social et a pris ainsi le risque d'un éclatement de la coalition chrétienne-démocrates-sociaux-démocrates (CDU-SPD) au sein de son gouvernement. D'autres ministres ont été limogés ou ont démissionné. Un passage du SPD dans l'opposition pourrait restreindre la marge de manœuvre du premier ministre, mais à quelques semaines de la fusion RFA-RDA, l'essentiel du travail législatif pour l'unification est déjà accompli.

Otages. Le second otage suisse travaillant au Liban pour le Comité International de la Croix Rouge, Elio Erriquez, a été libéré lundi soir et est arrivé mardi soir à Genève. Agé de 24 ans et orthopédiste à Saïda (sud-Liban), il avait été enlevé dans cette ville le 6 octobre dernier en même temps qu'un autre délégué du CICR, Emanuel Christen, libéré le 8 août dernier. Ils s'occupaient à Saïda des handicapés de guerre.

Visas. Des trafiquants tunisiens et algériens de visas français ont été arrêtés à Annaba, dans l'est algérien. Ils ont été arrêtés en possession de sommes d'argent françaises, d'un lot de 97 vignettes de visas, d'une boîte de tampon encreur et d'un cachet humide portant la mention «Consulat général de France». Un tunisien arrêté à Annaba avec un de ces faux visas apposé sur son passeport, a indiqué avoir payé 800FF pour l'obtenir.

Irak: le bouclier humain

Le président irakien Saddam Hussein a annoncé dans la nuit de vendredi à samedi qu'il allait rassembler les étrangers présents en Irak dans les installations stratégiques de son pays pour empêcher un bombardement de l'aviation américaine. Les étrangers deviennent ainsi explicitement un moyen de pression de Saddam Hussein sur les Etats occidentaux, qui n'ont pas tardé à réagir à cette nouvelle menace. L'Angleterre notamment a qualifié cette mesure de «menace inacceptable» et de «stacique hors la loi».

Avant cet événement, la semaine a été marquée par de nombreuses discussions sur la question du boycott économique contre l'Irak. La France a refusé de confondre embargo et blocus. Selon Paris, la demande du Koweït autorise les Etats membres de l'ONU à ne pas livrer de marchandises à l'Irak mais ne leur autorise pas cet embargo. Une position qui marque une distance par rapport aux Etats-Unis qui ont, eux, autorisé leurs navires à intercepter les bateaux de marchandises à destination de l'Irak.

De son côté, la Jordanie a demandé au Conseil de Sécurité de l'ONU d'étudier les effets sur son économie de sanctions contre l'Irak si elle les appliquait. L'Irak est en effet le premier partenaire commercial de la Jordanie, vers lequel elle dirige notamment le quart de ses exportations. Lors de leurs entretiens aux Etats-Unis, le président Bush n'a pas caché au roi Hussein qu'il considérait la fermeture du port d'Aqaba au commerce irakien comme déterminant dans son conflit avec Saddam Hussein. Un point de vue que le souverain hachémite semble avoir accepté partiellement, déclarant que la Jordanie se rallie à l'embargo décidé par l'ONU mais émettant des réserves sur l'application de cet embargo aux denrées alimentaires.

senti par les Arabes vis-à-vis de l'Occident. Il y a donc désir permanent chez eux de retrouver leur dignité et il suffit qu'un chef se lève, comme Nasser à Suez en 1956 ou comme Saddam aujourd'hui contre l'Occident, pour qu'il fasse figure de héros (Batal). La réalité du rapport des forces en présence n'a aucune importance. L'important c'est d'effacer l'humiliation et de retrouver sa dignité, à ses propres yeux comme à ceux de l'autre.

LJ: Comment voyez-vous l'issue de cette crise?

NM: Je ne veux pas faire de politique-fiction, mais il semble évident qu'aucune stabilité n'existera jamais dans la région sans un règlement juste de la question

Propos recueillis par Jean-Marc Bordes

LA SEMAINE...

de Suleiman Sweiss

Crise: premier bilan

Il n'est pas certain que l'administration américaine ait mesuré toutes les conséquences que sa décision d'envoyer des troupes sur la péninsule arabe allait entraîner. En moins de deux semaines, et grâce aux faux calculs de M. Bush, un certain nombre d'évolutions importantes sont en train de s'accomplir au Proche-Orient. En temps normal, il aurait peut-être fallu une décennie pour qu'elles s'accomplissent. Ces développements permettent de dresser un premier bilan de la crise du Golfe arabe, dont on ignore encore l'issue.

1- Depuis la mort du président égyptien Gamal Abdel Nasser, en 1970, les ennemis du peuple arabe ont déployé de grands efforts pour supprimer des mots tels que «progressistes», «réactionnaires» ou «nationaux» etc. du dictionnaire politique arabe. On voulait les remplacer par le qualificatif «arabe», vide de tout contenu politique précis. Suite à cette «homogénéisation», on a assisté à la formation de «conseils de coopération» dans le Golfe, au Machreck et au Maghreb arabe, fondés généralement sur des intérêts économiques précaires.

L'intervention militaire américaine a aidé à reclasser ces régimes arabes sur des bases nationales claires. Du coup, les conseils de coopération ont sauté, le tri s'est fait de nouveau entre, d'une part, les régimes farouchement pro-impérialistes et isolés de leur peuple, et, d'autre part, les régimes qui accordent la priorité aux intérêts nationaux arabes: Ce tri a une importance politique capitale aux yeux de la conscience populaire arabe.

2- Le caractère provocateur de la campagne américaine contre l'Irak et les arabes a avivé les sentiments anti-impérialistes de ceux-ci. Cette campagne a renforcé leur volonté de se défendre. Elle a presque mis fin à une situation pourrie depuis longtemps dans le monde arabe. Une mobilisation sans précédent -surtout en Jordanie- est en train de se concrétiser. Des groupes arabes de type «Kamikazes» sont en train de se constituer. La popularité rapide de Saddam Hussein montre à quel point on avait besoin d'un pôle d'attraction pour unifier les arabes. Comme si on n'attendait que quelqu'un pour sonner la cloche!

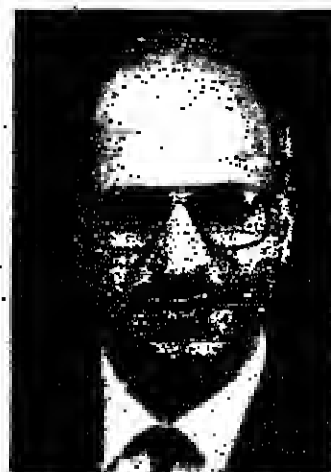
Le président irakien a mis sur les sentiments religieux dans son discours de la semaine dernière pour mobiliser encore plus la communauté musulmane contre les Américains. Bref, les nouvelles croisades ont allumé l'étincelle de la nouvelle renaissance arabe.

3- Il y a peu de temps, l'action politique populaire était faible. Des divergences voire des contradictions empêchaient l'apparition d'une coordination entre les forces politiques arabes. En Jordanie, en Palestine et en Egypte, un grand pas a été fait vers la collaboration entre les trois grands courants politiques influents: radicaux, nationalistes et islamistes. Cela est devenu possible grâce à l'attitude des Frères musulmans et d'autres courants islamistes vis-à-vis de l'agression américaine contre les lieux saints musulmans. Ce rapprochement, ce terrain commun d'action, entre les partisans de ces trois courants, était le rêve de certains hommes politiques. Jusqu'ici, il était presque impossible à réaliser.

4- Aux premiers jours de la crise, M. Bush croyait pouvoir diriger un «front uni», formé du Japon, des pays européens et d'autres pays. Or, deux semaines plus tard, la plupart des alliés commencent à se démarquer des positions américaines. La France en est l'exemple le plus évident; d'autres pays de la CEE (Italie, Espagne, etc.) ont déjà exprimé leurs réserves à l'égard du plan américain. Le Japon préfère offrir son soutien financier que d'envoyer des troupes.

Il s'avère d'ailleurs, pour l'administration américaine, que s'engager militairement dans les sables du désert arabe est loin d'être une situation simple à gérer. Elle risque d'entraîner les Etats-Unis dans une guerre longue, à la vietnamienne. De plus, le coût en sera lourd et le prix du pétrole risque de monter encore à une heure où l'économie américaine commence à souffrir de la stagnation.

5- Par son initiative inattendue de mercredi dernier, la direction irakienne a jeté des bases solides pour une paix durable avec l'Iran. Cela pourrait libérer de nouvelles énergies militaires irakiennes et donner à l'Irak de nouveaux points d'appui face à une éventuelle agression américaine.



Nadine Méouchy

La crise du Golfe renforce l'unité jordanienne

Nadine Méouchy est une historienne française spécialiste du Proche-Orient. Résidant à Amman depuis le printemps dernier, elle a accepté de répondre aux questions du «Jourdain», sur les conséquences de la crise du Golfe pour la nation jordanienne.

Le Jourdain: Selon vous, la crise du Golfe met-elle en danger le roi Hussein aujourd'hui?

Nadine Méouchy: Non, au contraire, je pense qu'elle renforce sa position dans le pays. Les événements auxquels on assiste en Jordanie aujourd'hui ont une dimension à la fois politique, nationale, arabe, islamique. Une dimension politique, une dimension idéologique et une dimension historique.

LJ: Partons d'abord de la dimension politique.

NM: Le mouvement de démocratisation impulsé par les élections de novembre 1989 donne une signification particulière à l'extraordinaire floraison de partis, organisations et comités politiques que la crise actuelle vient d'accroître. La libre expression des différentes forces politiques présentes en Jordanie qui sont unanimes dans leur soutien au roi est aujourd'hui un atout majeur pour le souverain hachémite. Alors qu'il y a quelques semaines sa position dans le pays pouvait paraître fragile, aujourd'hui son pouvoir est renforcé de la crise, non seulement à cause de l'unité nationale qui se fait autour de lui mais parce qu'il a réussi à faire fonctionner de façon positive dans la conscience populaire certains événements de l'histoire hachémite. Il renforce ainsi sa propre légitimité arabe et musulmane. Arabe, puisque la révolte du Chérif Hussein, son arrière-grand-père, en 1916, représente un grand moment de l'histoire arabe contemporaine. Musulmane, car les Hachémides sont le clan du prophète et c'est à eux que revient la garde des lieux saints musulmans, jusqu'au jour de 1925 où Ibn Saoud les a expulsés. Vous voyez donc tout ce que le roi a mis en jeu au niveau symbolique lorsqu'il a repris cette semaine, devant les membres du parlement et du gouvernement, le titre de Chérif.

LJ: Vous ne pensez pas que, paradoxalement l'unité nationale jordanienne se fait plus autour de Saddam Hussein que du roi de Jordanie?

NM: Non. Saddam apparaît pour l'instant comme le héros parce que c'est lui qui, sur la scène du conflit, est monté en première ligne. Mais dans les marches de soutien qui ont lieu depuis le début de la crise on ne brandit pas que le portrait de Saddam Hussein: on brandit aussi le portrait du roi, on brandit les drapeaux irakiens, jordanien et palestinien. Il est significatif d'ailleurs qu'on ne parle pas de Muzahhara (manifestation) mais de Massira (marche) à propos de ces rassemblements. La manifestation implique une notion d'opposition, or dans ce cas on ne s'oppose pas, il y a un accord total entre le peuple et les autorités sur le problème. Les marches sont très bien organisées par les directions politiques et tous les risques de débordement ont toujours été évités. De plus, depuis quelques jours, une multitude d'encarts paraissent dans la presse en arabe, payés par des individus, des entreprises, des chefs de tribu, des associations et toutes sortes d'organisations où l'on manifeste son soutien à l'Irak en associant la photo du roi à celle de Saddam Hussein. Le roi a très bien su négocier à l'intérieur de la faible marge de manœuvre qui lui était laissée par les événements. En ce qui concerne l'embargo qui se trouve imposé de fait sur Aqaba, il a su faire en sorte que ce ne soit pas lui qui en prenne l'initiative mais les Américains.

LJ: Vous parlez aussi d'une dimension idéologique.

NM: Il me semble que nous assistons à un phénomène extrêmement intéressant dans la Jordanie serait le terrain d'expérience. Je pense qu'il y a apparition d'un discours nouveau, en ce sens qu'il est, par sa thématique, un discours de synthèse entre le discours nationaliste arabe et le discours islamiste, et qu'il fonctionne parfaitement sur le terrain. C'est ici que l'alliance politique des partis politiques prend une dimension nouvelle, puisqu'elle est accompagnée de ce discours de synthèse. Sans erreur d'appréhension, la crise Irak-Koweït est en train de révéler par ses effets secondaires un tournant dans la pensée arabe du Proche-Orient. Ce discours que nous voyons s'élaborer sous nos yeux est un discours libéré des références occidentales et beaucoup plus proche des réalités psychologiques de la société à laquelle il s'adresse. On ne se soucie plus de faire bonne figure en séparant le religieux du politique. J'en veux pour exemple la récurrence de slogans du type «La ilah illa Allah wa Saddam habib Allah» (Il n'y a pas d'autre dieu que Dieu et Saddam est le bien aimé de Dieu), alors que Saddam est à la tête d'un parti nationaliste arabe laïc. Cette synthèse, opérée dans la rue, des deux traditions arabe et islamique est en train de s'opérer aussi, d'après mes informations, sur le plan théorique chez les hommes politiques jordaniens.

LJ: Les Occidentaux sont parfois surpris par le fait que les marches de soutien partent des mosquées après la prière du vendredi. Cela signifie-t-il que ce sont les autorités religieuses qui les déclenchent?

NM: Absolument pas. Ce n'est pas nouveau dans la région. Déjà au temps des combats nationa-

listes contre les puissances mandataires française et anglaise, les manifestations démarraient après la prière du vendredi. Les chefs nationalistes venaient y haranguer l'assistance. D'autre part, ce n'est pas systématique. A Al-Salt et à Amman, c'est vrai qu'elles sont parties de la mosquée, mais à Madra, par exemple, la marche est partie du stade municipal.

LJ: Appréciez-vous la dimension historique du mouvement déclenché par la crise du Golfe?

NM: Les thèmes politiques porteurs sont ceux qui font sens dans la mémoire historique arabe. Il faut remonter au moins aux accords Sykes-Picot (partage du Proche-Orient en 1916), à la déclaration Balfour (1917) et à la mise en place par la France et l'Angleterre des Etats modernes de la région, au premier rang desquels l'Etat d'Israël, pour comprendre la place des références historiques dans les réactions arabes à la crise d'aujourd'hui. Cette crise, qui est au départ un conflit entre les irakiens et les Koweïtiens, met en jeu, une fois de plus, la question palestinienne. Cela explique, par exemple, que dans tous les mots d'ordre des meetings et marches il y ait une référence à l'intifada. Dans toutes les marches, il y a des panneaux (ce ne sont pas des slogans criés) de soutien à la «glorieuse Intifada». Tout a basculé avec l'intervention américaine. Cette intervention a immédiatement été rattachée à la longue chaîne des interventions étrangères dans la région et notamment la plus grave d'entre elles: la création d'Israël. D'ailleurs les mots d'ordre visent l'«ennemi américano-sioniste», bien que les Israéliens ne soient pas dans le Golfe.

C'est là où la mémoire historique est importante, puisqu'elle ravive à chaque crise le sentiment d'humiliation et d'injustice res-

Travail d'été

Des passeports par milliers

Cinq mille personnes passent, l'été, au département des passeports et des affaires civiles pour remplir des formalités. Ce rush estival entraîne files d'attente pour les clients et horaires de travail élargis pour les employés. Les choses seraient plus faciles pour tout le monde si les citoyens étaient plus prévoyants.

L'été! Le moment venu pour tout le monde de partir en vacances sur les plages ensoleillées, baignées de vagues bleues aux crêtes bien blanches. Ou encore de rendre visite à des parents et d'échapper aux tâches quotidiennes, fût-ce pour une courte période.

Mais, si pour les vacanciers l'été est le temps de la détente, pour les autorités jordanien, en charge des passeports et autres documents officiels, c'est le temps des migrations.

«Le Jourdain» a visité le département des passeports et des affaires civiles (qui ont fusionné en 1988) et a parlé avec Issa Omari, directeur général du département en question.

Les raisons du surpeuplement des bureaux pour M. Omari sont diverses et démontrent plus la négligence des gens qu'un manque d'organisation de l'administration.

C'est un fait, les étudiants qui quittent le lycée et veulent étudier à l'étranger se dépêchent d'obtenir des passeports dans le court intervalle qui sépare les examens de la clôture des inscriptions dans les universités.

«Pourquoi attendent-ils le dernier moment pour faire leur passeport?»

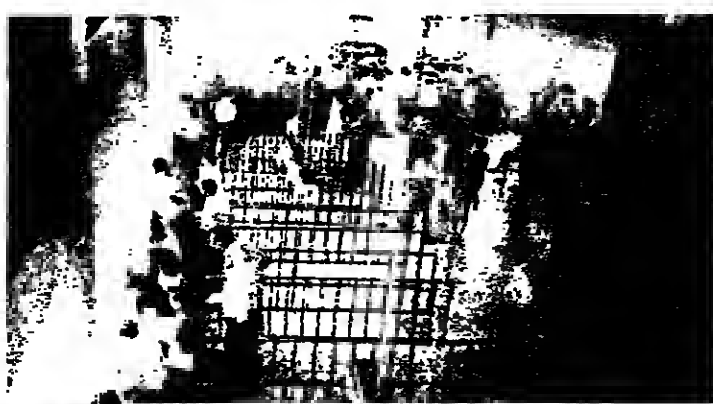
«Parfois, ils veulent économiser les 20 dinars que représente la taxe sur les passeports, pour le cas où ils ne pourraient pas sortir du pays. Cela arrive en effet en cas d'échec aux examens ou de notes trop basses.»

Une autre raison évoquée par M. Omari est le retour massif des expatriés. «Ils viennent pour passer les vacances, mais souvent avec des affaires à régler - mariages, certificats de naissance pour leurs enfants - et cela contribue à remplir les bureaux de monde pendant l'été.»

Autre contribution au «surpeuplement»: les déplacements des Jordaniens eux-mêmes, qui vont et viennent pendant les vacances. «Les gens ne pensent à leur passeport que lorsqu'ils en ont besoin», constate M. Omari.

Tous ces éléments font que les guichets débordent. Selon M. Omari, environ quatre à cinq mille citoyens passent pendant l'été par les bureaux des affaires civiles et des passeports. «Ce chiffre ne nous surprend pas, affirme-t-il. Nous sommes préparés à accueillir ce nombre de gens.»

En fait, les horaires de travail sont prolongés d'une à deux heures selon les cas et des fonctionnaires des autres bureaux du département sont appelés en renfort pour faire



De nombreux Jordaniens viennent chaque jour demander un passeport.

face à la masse.

Le prix d'un passeport (nouveau ou renouvelé) est de 20 dinars. Un prix qui n'a pas changé bien que le format, lui, soit changé, selon M. Omari. Le nouveau passeport est plus petit de format mais a plus de pages (60 contre 40 auparavant).

Pour obtenir un passeport, la durée de l'attente varie d'un cas à l'autre. En temps normal, on peut obtenir son passeport le jour même. En été, cela peut prendre plus, mais jamais plus de deux jours, selon M. Omari.

Les jeunes gens en âge d'accomplir leur service militaire doivent obtenir la permission de quitter le territoire avant qu'on leur délivre un passeport, ce qui prend plus de temps. A part ceux-là, les Jordaniens du pays ne rencontrent pas de problèmes.

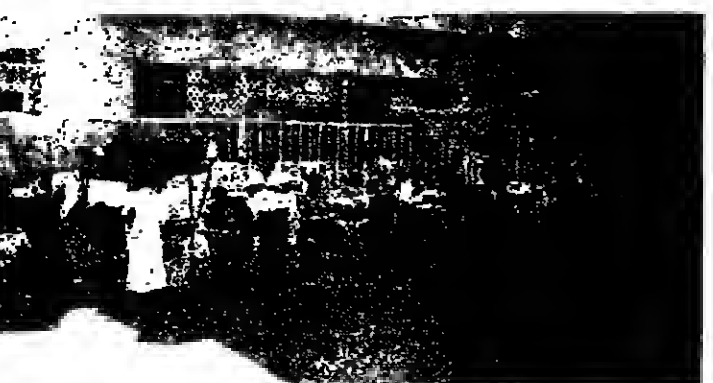
Plus de temps est nécessaire pour délivrer un passeport aux Jordaniens à l'étranger et aux Palestiniens. Les Jordaniens à l'étranger remplissent les formulaires et les services de l'Ambassade s'occupent du reste. «Cela prend évidemment du temps, en fonction, notamment, de la vitesse du courrier», dit M. Omari.

Quant aux Palestiniens, on distingue deux catégories: les détenteurs de la «carte verte», qui témoignent qu'ils habitent en Palestine. Ceux-là ont le droit de recevoir un passeport valable deux ans. Les détenteurs de la «carte jaune», des Palestiniens qui ne vivent pas en Palestine et qui ont les mêmes droits que les Jordaniens, reçoivent un passeport valable cinq ans. L'obtention des passeports pour ces deux catégories prend tout de même plus de temps car il faut passer par le service du suivi judiciaire et l'inspection.

Le prix pour les citoyens porteurs de la carte verte est de deux dinars. Pour ceux porteurs de la carte jaune, il est de 20 dinars, le même que pour des Jordaniens.

Pour ce qui est du droit de devenir citoyen ou d'obtenir un passeport jordanien en tant qu'étranger, les conditions diffèrent d'un cas à l'autre.

Ica Wahbeh



Une multitude d'étrangers sollicite chaque jour le département des passeports.

L'ordinateur à la ferme

Il est loin dans le passé le paysan en haillons, courbé sur la glèbe, que découvrait le voyageur anglais Arthur Young dans la campagne française, en 1789! Tout comme «le peuple oublié» qu'évoquait Balzac au siècle dernier. Une nouvelle race de paysans lui a succédé: les exploitants agricoles, aux entreprises souvent gérées par ordinateur et qui ont substitué à la lecture de «La veillée des chaumières» les statistiques de l'Europe verte et les études sur les «montants compensatoires».

La révolution silencieuse qui a transformé le monde de la terre, s'est accélérée au lendemain de la dernière guerre. Les agriculteurs représentaient 64% de la population active en 1850: ils n'y entrent plus que pour 7%. Alors qu'en 1940 un paysan subvenait aux besoins d'une dizaine de ses concitoyens, il en nourrit aujourd'hui une trentaine.

Depuis 1945, la productivité de l'agriculture a augmenté plus vite que celle de l'industrie. En fait, les agriculteurs produisent beaucoup plus qu'il n'est besoin pour la subsistance des Français. Aussi, leur problème numéro un est-il de trouver des débouchés pour leurs surplus. Et comme tous les pays du Marché commun sont dans le même cas...

L'agriculture se pratique sur 90% du territoire. Les terres arables en occupent 33%, les herbages 21,4%, les vignes et vergers 2,3%, les bois et forêts 26,7%, les terres non cultivées 5%. Première puissance agricole du Marché commun, la France se place en tête pour la production de blé, de vin, de sucre, d'orge, de viande de bœuf.

Dans les fermes françaises se perpétue un système d'exploitation agricole dans lequel domine la petite propriété: près d'un million d'exploitations d'une superficie moyenne de 29 hectares. Ces «petites» ont tendance à se regrouper en sortes de coopératives: pour l'achat d'un tracteur commun, de semence ou d'engrais au prix de gros, etc. Selon les experts, il ne subsistera plus, en l'an 2000, que 650.000 exploitations, dont 360.000 à temps complet et 300.000 à temps partiel (contre 982.000 aujourd'hui).

De nos jours, les paysans ont acquis la parité économique et sociale avec leurs compatriotes. Il n'en demeure pas moins que l'écart est souvent spectaculaire selon les catégories. Entre la situation d'un grand betteravier du Nord et celle d'un paysan provençal qui pratique la polyculture, il y a autant de différence qu'entre un cadre supérieur et un ouvrier payé au salaire minimum.

On a assisté, ces dernières décennies, à une seconde révolution agricole avec la mécanisation (le parc de tracteurs est passé de 35.000 en 1939 à plus de 1.500.000 aujourd'hui), avec la chimisation (près de 6 millions de tonnes d'engrais épandues chaque année) et surtout avec la culture et l'élevage biologiques.

Pierre-Albert Lambert

Théâtre

Une Roumaine à Amman

La semaine passée, à l'occasion d'une manifestation d'amitié entre le peuple roumain et le peuple jordanien et dans le but avoué de développer les relations culturelles entre les deux pays, une actrice roumaine de grand talent a été invitée par la télévision jordanienne pour un récital de poésie en français.

Aimée Iacobescu, actrice du Théâtre National de Bucarest (l'un des plus vieux théâtres, qui vient de fêter ses 150 ans d'existence) était ainsi invitée par l'Ambassade de Roumanie à Amman pour faire le bonheur de la large communauté roumaine vivant ici.

L'actrice est sortie major de la faculté de théâtre en 1968 et a commencé à travailler immédiatement au Théâtre National de Bucarest, sous la direction du fameux écrivain Zaharia Stancu. Avant même d'avoir terminé la faculté, elle jouait déjà des rôles au cinéma. Encore en troisième année, elle jouait dans un film du metteur en scène français Bernard Borderie, avec Jean Maurice et Marlou Tolu. Après l'université elle a joué



dans des films d'aventure et a commencé à travailler pour le cinéma en même temps qu'au théâtre. Ses rôles sont très diversifiés: drames, comédies, comédies musicales et même un rôle d'homme: le duc d'York, dans Richard III.

Ayant eu la chance de jouer aux côtés de grands acteurs et

metteurs en scène, elle a beaucoup appris et a perfectionné son talent.

C'est au théâtre qu'elle a interprété la plupart de ses rôles. Le théâtre roumain, qu'elle estime de son devoir de servir, mais aussi le théâtre international.

Aimée a beaucoup voyagé, participant aux festivals de cinéma ou de théâtre en Allemagne de l'ouest, en Turquie, en Inde.

«La Jordanie, dit l'actrice, me plaît beaucoup. Les gens y sont aimables, calmes, toujours souriants.»

L'émission hebdomadaire «Aujourd'hui en Jordanie», à la télévision jordanienne, l'a donc invitée pour un récital en langue française: elle a récité des poèmes traduits du roumain.

Ica Wahbeh

A L'AFFICHE

Nature au cinéma

Témoignage sur la Terre avant l'Homme

Sauvage et beau, présenté au Centre Culturel Français le lundi 20 août, est un de ces rares documentaires qui réussissent, en exposant un sujet rebattu - le monde animal -, à nous amener à reconsidérer nos connaissances. C'est un comp bien asséné à tous les préjugés sur la Nature, selon lesquels, par exemple, la plupart des bêtes sont cruelles et imprévisibles et les moins belliqueuses ne sont rien de plus que des êtres mignons.

Le film de Frédéric Rossif ne cherche pas à nous bouleverser par un testament de préoccupations écologiques. Ce n'est pas un film sur le rôle des animaux dans l'équilibre planétaire. Il ne nous propose pas non plus une lamentation sur les espèces en voie de disparition. L'intention de Sauvage et beau (1984) est plus subtile. En partant d'une description du comportement de divers animaux, il s'efforce de sonder une caractéristique propre à la vie. Il se pose la grande question de savoir ce que sont les forces motrices de la Nature, en tâchant de préciser cette notion.

Dès la première image, il tente de la définir. Le générique défille sur un immense fleuve qui donne l'impression d'être sans commencement ni fin. Bientôt, cette image est remplacée par d'autres, dont le contenu symbolique est identique. Cette fois, c'est le mouvement inexorable des troupeaux d'animaux traversant les vastes plaines de savane et de toundra, ou des vols et virages de milliers d'oiseaux dans l'espace infini. Eux aussi illustrent ce phénomène trompeusement linéaire que sont les forces de la Nature. Dans le film, ces images fonctionnent comme un refrain. Entre elles, s'intercalent des moments de la vie quotidienne des habitants du monde sauvage. Tous ces épisodes nous font prendre conscience que la Nature est une force taillée, à facettes multiples, cruelle aussi bien que généreuse, et toujours pleine de surprises.

Pour pouvoir authentifier le caractère général et permanent de ses découvertes, Rossif a choisi de se concentrer sur les animaux qui nous lient au monde de la préhistoire (baleines, crocodiles, bisons, éléphants de mer, et même Cabiais: cochons d'eau). Nulle mention n'est faite des singes pondigés, du gorille, de l'orang-outan, qui rappellent tant l'Homme. Pour Rossif, explique le texte de Jacques Trémolin, les animaux choisis sont les témoins de la Terre avant l'Homme et les témoins d'un langage avant la parole.

On a bien l'impression que Rossif, en choisissant cette approche, se place dans la position des premiers peintres de l'humanité, les hommes des grottes de Lascaux et d'Altamira. Il observe et cherche à capter les mêmes qualités que celles qu'ils ont peintes sur les parois de leurs cavernes, et il exprime ce que ces peintures rupestres de l'ère paléolithique voulaient exprimer: les aspects du comportement de l'animal qui révèlent la force transcendante qu'ils ont en eux.

Tournant au ralenti presque constamment, Rossif a réalisé Sauvage et beau en prenant le temps d'observer chaque détail comme s'il avait un pinceau en main et une toile devant lui. Mariées à la musique synthétique de Vangelis, ses images nous permettent de découvrir le rythme de l'animal. Grâce au commentaire de Jacques Trémolin, il nous fait découvrir les forces motrices qui seront fondamentales aussi pour l'être humain: la cruauté, la générosité, l'amour fou, la peur de la mort, la soif de pouvoir. En ce sens, l'œuvre de Frédéric Rossif est une claire explication des raisons pour lesquelles les forces exprimées par le monde sauvage exercent cette fascination primordiale et éternelle sur le regard de l'Homme.

Sami Kamal

CINEMA

TELEVISION

«Sauvage et beau» (1984).

Film de Frédéric Rossif. Un superbe documentaire sur les animaux sauvages, conçu comme un vrai film de cinéma. Vuir FOCUS. Centre Culturel Français, lundi 20 août à 20h00.

«Some like it hot» (Certains l'aiment chaud), de Billy Wilder, avec Jack Lemmon, Tony Curtis et Marilyn Monroe. L'histoire absurde de deux musiciens qui assistent accidentellement au massacre de la Saint-Valentin et prennent la fuite pour Miami déguisés en femmes, avec l'orchestre de Marilyn Monroe. Centre américain, dimanche 19 à 19h00 (en anglais).

«Totale», de Sydney Pollack, avec Dustin Hoffman. L'histoire d'un acteur au chômage qui se fait passer pour une femme afin d'obtenir un rôle dans un soap opéra à la télévision américaine. Centre américain, le jeudi 23 août à 19h00. (en anglais).

Ciné-club. Séance quotidienne à 20h00. Projection supplémentaire pour les jeunes, le jeudi à 16h00.

Dimanche: «Peggy Sue got married» de Francis Ford Coppola, avec Kathleen Turner.

Lundi: «They live» de John Carpenter.

Mardi: «Tequila sunrise», avec Kurt Russell, Mel Gibson et Michelle Pfeiffer.

Mercredi: «Square dance».

Jeudi: «The princess of darkness», de John Carpenter, avec Donald Lee Vans.

Vendredi: «The last Emperor», de Bernardo Bertolucci, avec Peter O'Tool.

Samedi: «Le grand bleu», de Luc Besson, avec Jean-Marc Barr.

Film en version originale. Route de l'université, première à droite après l'arrêt Jérusalem puis première à gauche. Le ciné-club se trouve à environ 300 m., sur la gauche de la route.

DIMANCHE

17h45 - Denver, le dernier dinosaure. Dessin animé.
18h10 - Le rat musqué. Documentaire sur cet animal des marais et sa façon originale de construire sa tanière.
18h30 - Ça c'est du cinéma.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Carnet de notes. Extraits de musique classique.

LUNDI

18h10 - Documentaire sur les pionniers du cinéma. Mélanges et les autres.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Magazine sportif hebdomadaire.

MARDI

18h10 - Des chiffres et des lettres. Jeu.
18h30 - La chance aux chansons. Variétés françaises du passé.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Aujourd'hui en Jordanie: magazine local réalisé et présenté par Saleh Madi.

MERCREDI

18h00 - SOS disparus. Série policière. Une femme a reçu un coup de téléphone de son frère, supposé mort depuis la veille.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Sélection de variétés françaises.

JEUDI

17h45 - «Mousseline» (17): dessin animé.
18h10 - Des chiffres et des lettres. Jeu.
18h30 - La chance aux Chansons. Variétés françaises du passé.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Documentaire.

VENREDI

17h30 - «Meurtre en douce». Film de la série Haute tension. Luc est un ingénieur reconnu qui se trouve accusé d'un meurtre alors que son seul crime est d'avoir eu une aventure avec une collègue pleine de charme.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - La révolution de l'intelligence. Les sciences et techniques sous la Révolution française.

SAMEDI

17h45 - «Meurtre en douce». Film de la série Haute tension. Luc est un ingénieur reconnu qui se trouve accusé d'un meurtre alors que son seul crime est d'avoir eu une aventure avec une collègue pleine de charme.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Documentaire sur les glaciers en Amérique du nord.

Vous écrivez?

Si la plume vous dérange, que vous écrivez en français... «Le Jourdain» vous ouvre ses deux pages hebdomadaires. Vos idées de sujets, locaux et régionaux, comme vos suggestions y sont les bienvenues.

Jean-Marc Bordes, French section, Jordan Times.
P.O. Box 6710. Tél: 667171.

JEUX

Mots croisés

par Florence Moutet

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										

Horizontalement.

1: devoir. 2: elles mènent toutes à Rome. 3: négation; dans latin; géniteur. 4: s'élancer; infinitif. 5: conduisant. 6: années. 7: dieu du soleil; au bout du sein. 8: tirer du lait; Ecole Nationale d'Administration. 9: se rendront. 10: on la demande aux enfants boudoirs; coordonne.

Verticalement.

A: décorer. B: on y danse, on en y met les conserves. C: avant approuvé; pénalité. D: chemin. E: le mari de sa fille; de préférence après la fête. F: champion; mouvement. G: réfléchir; pronom personnel. H: coller; bruler à l'idée. I: dans la gamme; caillasse. J: réfréner; mot enfantine.

Solution des mots croisés

Horizontalement.

1: obligation. 2: routes. 3: ni; in; père. 4: étendre; or. 5: mentent. 6: trames. 7: Râ; réton. 8: traire; ENA. 9: inquiet. 10: nnette; et.

Verticalement.

A: ornements. B: boîte. C: in; entraîn. D: itinéraire. E: gendre; rot. F: as; restent. G: pense; te. H: ire; tête. I: ré; somme. J: sierra, na.

LE SAVIEZ-VOUS ?

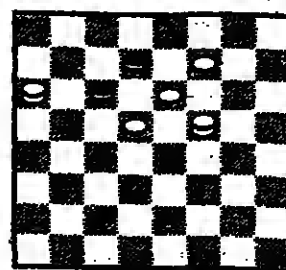
BUDGET. Un tiers des Américains consacrent un logement une part tellement importante de leur revenu qu'ils n'ont plus les moyens de se soigner, de se nourrir ou de s'habiller correctement selon un étude de l'Institut de politique économique américain. Soixante-dix-huit million de personnes sont concernées, soit une augmentation de 42% par rapport aux chiffres des années 1970.

CIGARETTES. Le gouvernement vietnamien a interdit l'importation de cigarettes étrangères dans le pays pour protéger la production locale et éviter le gaspillage des devises. Cette interdiction intervient alors que les autorités s'inquiètent du développement de la contrebande au Vietnam où existent, selon la presse officielle, plusieurs dizaines de milliers de contrebandiers pour lesquels le transport de cigarettes constitue une des activités importantes. Les contrevenants à la nouvelle réglementation seront passibles de confiscation et de destruction des cigarettes, d'amendes et même d'emprisonnement.

DAMES

Problème N. 24.

Les blancs gagnent en trois coups.



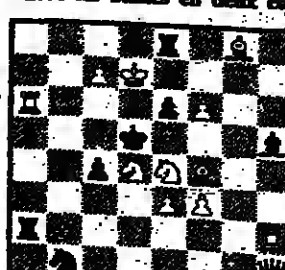
Solution du problème N. 23:

B. 19-14; N. 11-20; B. 14-10; N. 24-31; B. 12-7; N. 3-12; B. 27-30; N. 18-27; B. 30-7; N. 25-18; B. 10-6; N. 2-11; B. 7-30.

ECHECS

Problème N. 24.

Mat avec les blancs en deux coups.



Solution du problème N. 23:

B. 19-14; N. 11-20; B. 14-10; N. 24-31; B. 12-7; N. 3-12; B. 27-30; N. 18-27; B. 30-7; N. 25-18; B. 10-6; N. 2-11; B. 7-30.

S. Arabia indicates oil output increase

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Oil Minister Hisham Nazer indicated Saturday that Saudi Arabia is planning to increase its oil production to help offset the shortfall on the world market which is causing oil prices to soar.

Nazer, addressing a press conference in the summer capital of Jeddah, said that if the emergency session of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) proposed by the kingdom does not get off the ground "then it will be left for each member state to decide alone" on the increase in output.

But Saudi Arabia alone cannot make up for the shortage, the minister said, estimating that the maximum additional output it can pump would be two million barrels per day.

Each of Venezuela and the United Arab Emirates could increase output by half a million barrels per day, but "this would leave us with one million barrels less," he said.

With the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait, and the subsequent U.N.-decreed sanctions that block the sale of oil from those two countries, the market has lost an estimated four million barrels per day.

OPEC's latest agreement reached July 28 in Geneva has fixed a production ceiling of almost 22.5 million barrels per day for the 13 member states to defend a \$21 per barrel price.

Nazer noted that the Geneva agreement was practically revoked. "Now this has all been changed. The price now stands at \$28 per barrel, and the daily production figure is far less than 22.4 million," he said. "The shortage of four million barrels a day can increase if the tension continues."

He added: "All OPEC members together should make up for this shortage."

"We will not let the Third World countries down and so will increase production," he said. He also suggested that the current oil situation could improve if the United States and the industrialised countries opened up their strategic stockpiles to the market.

"What is happening now in the oil market is caused by panic, not by actual factors of supply and demand," Nazer said. "We should not take what is happening in market now as criterion... the market is destabilised by the Iraqi action not by market forces."

Oil industry sources in Saudi Arabia had told the Associated Press Friday that the kingdom, the dominant OPEC state with a quarter of known world reserves, was going to increase its output to keep the lid on soaring oil prices to prevent harm to the world economy, consumer nations and the oil producing states themselves.

They had predicted the OPEC emergency session called by Saudi Arabia to convene Monday or Tuesday in Geneva, but did not say what would happen if not all OPEC members agreed to participate.

"Until now there has been no full agreement on the OPEC meeting that Saudi Arabia has proposed," said Nazer to the press conference. "Some have agreed like Venezuela and Saudi Arabia, others have opposed for political reasons as Iraq, still others like Indonesia wanted to avoid any confrontation, while some have yet to reply."

Iraq has been lashing at Saudi Arabia for calling the meeting, insisting that the shortfall was created by the Saudi blocking of Iraqi oil exports from its trans-Saudi oil pipeline.

Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Al Chalabi said holding the emergency session would mean suspension of the Geneva agreement which had "worked out a clear-cut line for production and prices."

The Saudi oil minister, in the first direct official comment, confirmed that Saudi Arabia had turned away two Iraqi tankers that tried to load oil from the pipeline terminal.

"We turned away two tankers after the U.N. Security Council resolution on sanctions," Nazer said.

The trans-Saudi pipeline ending at Yambo on the Red Sea had a capacity of 1.65 million barrels per day but "after the invasion of Kuwait, Iraq itself lowered pumping to 800,000 barrels per day then to 600,000 then to less." That had gone to fill storage tanks of a 10-11 million barrels capacity.

Petrol price rises, which have so far put 15 pence (28.5 cents) on the gallon, did not come into effect until early August. This would translate into a rise in inflation of around 0.25 per cent, they said.

Lower prices for seasonal foods in July left the figure unchanged from June. The Central Statistical Office said month-on-month retail prices in July rose just 0.1 per cent, the lowest monthly increase since July, 1989.

Financial markets had been expecting a month-on-month rise of 0.2 per cent rise, over the June figure after official figures showed average earnings rising above 10 per cent, much higher than the government would like.

Oil prices jump

U.S. stocks tumble again

NEW YORK (R) — U.S. stocks slid for a second straight session Friday as tensions in the Middle East drove oil prices sharply higher, fanning inflation fears.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed off 36.64 points, or 1.4 per cent, at 2,644.80, its lowest level in nearly six months. For the week, the 30-share index lost 71.78 points.

Stocks have lost nearly nine per cent of their value since Iraq's takeover of Kuwait sent oil prices soaring, unnerving financial markets around the world. Just a month ago, on July 16 and 17, the Dow industrials closed twice in a row at 2,999.75, the all-time high.

"You can sum it up in two words: Saddam Hussein," said Alfred Goldman at A.G. Edwards and Sons. "There's growing recognition that we're facing a very serious problem that's not going away soon."

Analysts don't expect the price slide to stop anytime soon. "Generally, trends tend to go farther than you think they will go," said A.C. Moore, research director at Argus Research Corp.

The New York investment house believes the Dow average will touch 2,550 or even lower before the Iraqi situation stabilises.

Robert Kahan, manager of equity trading at Montgomery Securities Inc. in San Francisco, said he believes stock prices will keep dropping "until something definitive happens" in the Mideast.

"The market does not like uncertainty," he said. But not all market watchers are so pessimistic.

Michael Metz, a managing director of Oppenheimer and Co., said he believes the Dow average will only drop 20 or 40 points more before the market enters a recovery.

"I would be amazed if the market would close below 2,600 this year," he said. "It's always the case when everybody says 'this market is going a lot lower and can't possibly go up' — that's usually the time it's hitting the bottom."

Charles Clough, chief investment strategist at Merrill Lynch and Co., wouldn't speculate how much farther stock prices may fall, but said he believes the market is oversold.

"You've taken an awful lot out. I would say you've got to rally at some point here," he said. "You're probably awfully close to the end of panic selling."

At that point, he said, bargain hunters should begin to enter the market, sending stock prices higher.

Clough said the Mideast standoff did not set off the stock market's slide. Instead, it only exploited soft market conditions that already existed. The economic trouble was evident in disappointing second-quarter corporate earnings released last month, he said.

Moore said the market's turmoil reflects an underlying uncertainty about the world. "We're realising we don't have a great deal of control over the future as we seemingly did in the past with the move toward democracy and free markets," he said.

Moore said he's never seen the market more sensitive to world events in the 20 years he has worked on Wall Street.

There is "lingering optimism" in the market that the Iraqi stalemate will be resolved peacefully, but that optimism is starting to fade, he said.

In addition, he said, "you're starting to see more and more people talk about a probable recession."

Should an all-out war erupt in the Mideast, analysts envision different scenarios for the market.

Kahan predicted a war would send the Dow climbing because it finally would be evidence of some definitive action in the region.

Metz said a war "would spark a short-term nervous selloff and then the market would go up."

Clough said a conflict would send oil prices even higher as supply concerns mounted, further destabilising the market. "Wars have never been good for financial markets," he said.

The broad market got hammered with 1,313 stocks falling and only 298 rising. New York Stock Exchange volume was an active 212.6 million shares.

The widely watched Dow index was at its lowest level since March 1, when it closed at 2,635.59.

Thursday, the Dow 30-share index dropped 67 points after hopes that the Middle East crisis would be settled quickly were squashed and oil prices rose.

Oil prices jumped again Friday. West Texas Intermediate, a benchmark U.S. grade of crude, gained \$1.27 to \$28.63 a barrel. Prices have now risen by about a third since Iraq's conquest of its oil-rich neighbour. The higher prices are likely to feed inflation, which was already running at a fast pace before the invasion, according to the latest reports.

Consumer prices rose a sharp 0.4 per cent in July, the govern-

ment said Thursday, in a sign of persistent inflation despite a drop in energy prices just before Iraq's raid.

Investors are now worried that soaring oil prices will push inflation higher still and tip economies into recession.

A government report Friday that the U.S. trade deficit fell sharply in June to its lowest level in seven years did little to cheer the market.

"This market is so oversold and there's such an army of bears that, given any improvement out there, the market is ripe for a pretty good recovery," said Charles Jensen, chief technical analyst at MKI Securities.

But others said stocks could easily continue falling. Friday's drop pushed the Dow about 100 points away from its low point for the year, 2,543.24 on Jan. 30.

On the American Stock Exchange, the AMEX index lost 3.22 to 333.61. The NASDAQ over-the-counter index dropped 8.78 to 393.49.

The dollar continued its record-breaking dive Friday, setting new lows against the Deutschmark for the fourth straight day.

The dollar, reacting more to concerns over U.S. economic weakness than anything else, hit 1.5450 marks before bouncing up slightly to close at 1.5495, compared with 1.5530 Thursday.

The dollar, however, is not acting as one of those havens. Instead, investors are focusing on high-interest currencies such as the Swiss franc, British pound and Canadian dollar.

Gold rose 40 cents to \$409.60 for spot delivery on the commodity exchange.

U.S. owes U.N. \$0.6b

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Member states owe the United Nations more than \$1 billion in budget dues and peacekeeping operations, with the United States owing more than half of the total.

According to recent figures, the world body is slightly over \$1 billion in debt for 1990 and past years with \$668 million in debt for regular dues and \$389 million for peacekeeping operations.

Of this amount the United States owes \$669.6 million — \$521.9 million for regular contributions and \$147.7 million for peacekeeping in 1990 and prior years.

U.S. President George Bush has asked Congress for funds to pay outstanding U.N. debts but payment of the full amount due is expected to be spread over several years.

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ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE COMPANIES CONTROLLER

The Companies Controller in the Ministry of Industry and Trade hereby announces that the Economic Security Committee by its referenced decision No. 4/90 of July 15th 1990 declared the liquidation of Petra Bank PLC as well as appointing the Central Bank of Jordan (represented by the governor) as the liquidator. In accordance with article No. 289 of the companies law No. 1/1989 this announcement is published in the local newspapers.

COMPANIES CONTROLLER MANSOUR ABU HAMOUR

Jordan-Kuwait bank stresses having no link to governments

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Iraqi takeover of Kuwait and the subsequent crisis in the Gulf have no bearing whatsoever on the Jordan Kuwait Bank since the bank is a full-fledged Jordanian institution and does not have any holdings in Kuwait, according to the management of the bank.

"The Kuwaiti link with the bank is only in name," said Sufian Sartawi, general manager of the bank. "We are full fledged Jordanian bank, with 70 per cent of our capital owned by Jordanians and the rest by Kuwaiti individuals," he said.

Furthermore, he said, the bank, which was established in 1976 with a JD 5 million capital, fully paid up by 1978, does not have any holdings in Kuwait. "We have no branches or representative offices in Kuwait or anywhere else," Sartawi told the Jordan Times.

"None of our Kuwaiti shareholders represents the (former) government of Kuwait or any other government," he added.

"The capital of the bank has always been less than 40 per cent owned by Kuwaiti nationals," he said.

Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi, in a statement to the press last week, also said that there were no problems at the Jordan Kuwait Bank, noting that the institution was a Jordanian bank with a Jordanian majority ownership and operating under a Jordanian licence.

The assets of the bank, which has 15 branches in Jordan employing over 500 people, stood at JD 171.2 million as of Dec. 31, 1989, and it made a net profit of JD 3 million during the year, according to Sartawi. "We have not distributed dividends for the year 1989 and we hope to do it this year for both 1989 and 1990," he said.

According to Sartawi, the bank has made a profit of JD 1.3 million during the first half of this year and hopes to reach the same figure as that of 1989.

Asked whether the Jordan Kuwait Bank would suffer any losses as a result of the "deposit/loan" arrangement in light of the dramatic plunge in the value of the Kuwaiti dinar, Sartawi said: "I do not think we will suffer any losses..." but he refused to provide any figures for the amount of Kuwaiti currency the bank purchased prior to suspending the arrangement.

"When the situation is clear, we will adjust the deposit/loan arrangement," Sartawi said. "Either we pay them the difference in actual currency exchange rate or we collect from them... all of those who deal with us under this arrangement are highly reliable people, and we are not going to lose anything..."

Ciba-Geigy profit slides

BASLE, Switzerland (R) — Rising costs and a surging Swiss franc chopped Swiss chemical company Ciba-Geigy AG's after-tax group profits by 12 per cent in the first half of this year, the company said Friday.

The fall to 1.22 billion Swiss francs (\$952 million) also made it unlikely Switzerland's largest chemical concern can match last year's performance for turnover and earnings, it added.

"We expect sales and earnings over the whole year, like those in the first half-year, to develop at a somewhat lower rate than in 1989," when group net profit rose to 1.56 billion francs (\$1.22 billion) from 1.32 billion in (\$76.30 million) 1988, it said.

It did not make a more specific profit forecast, but noted both sales and profit are normally much higher in the first half of the year than in the second.

British inflation stays close to 10 per cent

LONDON (R) — Britain's retail price inflation in July was unchanged at 9.8 per cent from June, but was still well above the year-on-year rates among its major trading partners, official figures published Friday showed.

Some economists had forecast it might break through 10 per cent because of higher wage settlements and consumer spending.

But rising petrol prices caused by Iraq's takeover of Kuwait this month and the loss of trade as a result of United Nations sanctions against Iraq would add to inflationary pressures and would probably push the retail price index into double digits when August's figures come out, financial analysts said.

Petrol price rises, which have so far put 15 pence (28.5 cents) on the gallon, did not come into effect until early August. This would translate into a rise in inflation of around 0.25 per cent, they said.

Lower prices for seasonal foods in July left the figure unchanged from June. The Central Statistical Office said month-on-month retail prices in July rose just 0.1 per cent, the lowest monthly increase since July, 1989.

Financial markets had been expecting a month-on-month rise of 0.2 per cent rise, over the June figure after official figures showed average earnings rising above 10 per cent, much higher than the government would like.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday, August 18, 1990
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	126.1	126.9
U.S. dollar	655.0	659.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	443.4	446.1
Pound Sterling	1257.7	1265.2	Dutch guilder	375.6	377.9
Deutsche mark	422.2	424.8	Swedish crown	114.4	115.1
Swiss franc	510.1	513.2	Italian lira (for 100)	57.5	57.8
			Belgian franc (for 10)	205.5	206.7

Cinema

RAINBOW

Nabila Obeld — Salah Qabeel

in

THE DANCER AND THE

POLITICIAN

(Arabic)

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

Cinema

CONCORD

Dured Lahham

Madeline Tabar

in

KAFROUN

3:30, 6:45, 8:45, 10:45

ONCE BITTEN

5:15 only

Cinema

PHILADELPHIA

TWO MOON JUNCTION

Performances: 3:45, 6:15, 8:30 and 10:30 p.m.

Cinema

NJOUM

POLICE ACADEMY 6

Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

Cinema

PLAZA

POLICE ACADEMY 6

Performances: 12:30, 3:45, 6:45, 8:45, 10:45

South Africa orders troops into Soweto to stop violence

SOWETO, South Africa (R) — South Africa ordered troops into Johannesburg's giant Soweto township Saturday to quell the most serious black factional fighting there for years.

Zulu migrant workers based in hostels and residents loyal to African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela fought overnight with guns, spears and knives in an extension of a feud originating in Natal province.

The battlezones, almost all of them near the barracks-like Zulu hostels dotting Soweto, were littered with rocks, rubble and smouldering barricades of burnt-out vehicles.

Houses were still burning in West Jabavu district after arson attacks by Zulu migrants. Residents said the Zulus had been angered by stone-throwing by youths living near their hostel.

Commissioner of police General Johann Van der Merwe said he had ordered a strong police contingent supported by the South African Defence Force (SADF)

into Soweto immediately. "The reinforcements will be strengthened by units of the SADF... and will do everything possible to stop the senseless violence," he said in a statement.

Mandela's wife Winnie, speaking to residents during a tour of the troublespots, accused the Zulu-based Inkatha Movement of inciting the violence to disrupt political negotiations between the ANC and the government on ending apartheid.

At least 50 people have been killed since fighting spread to Soweto Thursday following four days of clashes which claimed more than 150 lives in three other Johannesburg townships.

A police spokesman, Lieutenant Govindasamy Marimuthoo, said more than 300 people had also been wounded in Soweto. "The affected areas are extremely tense," he said.

"We were fighting the whole night," said a young resident reached by telephone. He said the migrant workers used all

kinds of weapons including hand grenades and guns.

"Today people (residents) are staying inside but I understand Inkatha wants to fight again now," the youth added.

More than 4,000 people have been killed in four years of factional fighting in Natal province between ANC supporters and followers of the Inkatha movement of chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the most political leader in the six-million-strong Zulu tribe.

The ANC, the main black nationalist organisation opposing apartheid, said earlier this month it was suspending its armed struggle against the white minority government.

But Mrs. Mandela said that, in view of the latest fighting, it was perhaps the ANC-government negotiations and not the armed struggle that should have been suspended, a camera crew of the American NBC television network reported.

ANC loyalists gathered to march through the white towns of

Welkom, in Orange Free State, and Vereeniging, south of Johannesburg, to highlight what they call a police bias towards Buthelezi's politically-conservative Inkatha Movement.

Witnesses said the turnout was poor in Vereeniging. The ANC-allied Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) had expected more than 50,000 people to join the march there.

In Welkom, hundreds of khaki-clad white rightwingers carrying rifles, pistols and whips lined the route of the march. They said they were there to protect white-owned property.

Neo-Nazi leader Eugene Terre Blanche told reporters they were not seeking confrontation with blacks but had turned out in response to requests from nervous white residents.

White rightwingers have mailed and telephoned anonymous threats to COSATU offices, saying they would plant bombs and shoot into crowds to halt the marches.

Bhutto vows to fight; foes seek alliance

ISLAMABAD (R) — Ousted Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto vowed Saturday to fight back as her political foes pondered a grand alliance for October elections.

"I am ready to fight," she told thousands of cheering followers at Rawalpindi, near Islamabad, before going into a meeting of her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) to plan its political and legal battles.

"I am ready to fight for people's rights," Bhutto said and asked the crowd if they too were ready. A forest of hands and the PPP red-black and green flags rose in an affirmative from the crowd standing under a scorching sun.

This was Bhutto's first visit to Islamabad since she left the capital on Aug. 7, a day after President Ghulam Ishaq Khan dismissed her 20-month-old government, dissolved the National Assembly and ordered fresh elections on Oct. 24.

Ishaq Khan and caretaker Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi have accused the PPP government of abuse of power and corruption which they cited as grounds for its dismissal.

The PPP denies the charges and has decided to challenge Ishaq's move in court.

"Ishaq and Jatoi are two Satanas, they are looting Pakistan," chanted the crowd before Bhutto made a brief speech from the balcony of shopping plaza, where she met senior colleagues from her party to plan court and election battles.

"Oh Allah, Oh Rasool (Prophet Mohammad), Benazir is innocent" was another slogan repeatedly chanted by the crowd.

Opponents of Bhutto began two days of talks in Islamabad on Saturday to plan a broad alliance to face the PPP in the elections, political sources said.

Jatoi told reporters there was a good response from the leaders of the constituent parties of the Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA) to the prospect of a greater alliance.

Bhutto took office in December 1988 as the first elected woman leader of a Muslim nation after the PPP emerged as the largest party in the first party-based elections following 11 years of military rule.

She told the Rawalpindi crowd her government had raised the country's prestige abroad and was strengthening the nascent democracy when Ishaq Khan struck in what she has called a "constitutional coup d'etat."

She said a declaration of a state of emergency, which gives the caretaker government extraordinary powers to curb civil liberties, had proved that the present administration had no popular support.

Serbs barricade towns in Republic of Croatia

KNIN, Yugoslavia (R) — Hundreds of Serbs armed with rifles and pistols sealed off towns in the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia Saturday, raising fears of ethnic clashes that some Western diplomats say could lead to civil war.

The Serbs, who accuse the Croatian authorities of discrimination, felled pine trees or used bulldozers to set up roadblocks Friday, sealing off towns near the Adriatic coast, such as Knin and Benkovac.

The protesters, who kept all-night vigils on the roadblocks, say they will hold an autonomy referendum Sunday in parts of Croatia where they form a majority and will resist any police attempt to stop it taking place.

The Serbs and the Croats, traditional rivals, are Yugoslavia's biggest ethnic groups.

Serbia, the biggest republic, accuses Croatia of trying to break up Yugoslavia, a multi-ethnic federation of six republics, but Croatia says Serbia wants to dominate all Yugoslavia.

Many Yugoslav and Western diplomats say fighting between the two groups, long the pivot of power in Yugoslavia, could trigger civil war and tear the federation apart.

The Serbian newspaper Vjesnik Novosti said almost two million Serbs were ready to go to Croatia to defend their brothers if they were attacked. It said 2,000 women and children had been evacuated from Knin and nearby

villages. Croatian armoured police vehicles were reported roaming the area north of the Adriatic coast town of Split in a region where Serbs are in the majority in many towns.

Serbian media said Friday the army had been called out in Knin. But the reports proved incorrect and Croatian President Franjo Tudjman said he was the victim of a plot to destabilise the Croatian government.

"We knew about the scenario to create confusion in Croatia, confusion intended to overthrow the democratic authorities in Croatia," he told Croatian television.

"Then it was realised that it would be too foolish (to use the army) and lead not only to the abyss of civil war but to a final end of the Serbian and Croatian peoples living together in Croatia and in Yugoslavia," he said.

A Western diplomat said the Serbian media was waging a disinformation campaign against Croatia. "The Serbian media is enflaming passions," he said.

Tensions over cultural, ethnic, religious and political differences have risen since Croatia dumped Communist rule in May in its first free elections since World War II.

Serbia and most of Yugoslavia remains controlled by Communists, but nationalism is growing in the multi-ethnic country as Communism gradually loses its grip in many areas.

Filipino military on alert after threat

MANILA (R) — The Philippines Armed Forces went on full alert Saturday after anti-government rebels threatened to launch an offensive.

Officials dismissed the threats as propaganda but assembled about 3,000 troops, backed by tanks and artillery, at armed forces headquarters in the capital.

"If they stage another coup, we are ready for it. It would be

foolish for them to try anything," Armed Forces Deputy Chief Major-General Rodolfo Biazon said.

Matinosa soldiers came close to toppling President Corason Aquino in a coup attempt last December.

"We don't believe they could mount a serious coup. The most they can do are terrorist acts and bombings. But we have to be prepared," he told reporters.

Military spokesman Colonel Juanito Rimando said all camps had been put on red alert as a precaution. He said the military has not uncovered any rebel plot to destabilise the government.

Rebel leader Colonel Gregorio Honasan, who has vowed to oust Aquino before her term expires in 1992, threatened Wednesday to resume the offensive against the government.

U.S. starts evacuating Lebanese from Monrovia

FREETOWN (R) — U.S.-Navy helicopters began evacuating hundreds of Lebanese from the Liberian capital Monrovia Saturday as battles raged in the western city.

Lebanese officials in neighbouring Sierra Leone said the helicopters began flying the 350 evacuees from the American embassy compound just after dawn to four U.S. warships offshore.

When they were all aboard they would sail to Freetown and be flown ashore Sunday, they added.

There are normally 3,000 to 4,000 Lebanese in Liberia who control much of the nation's commerce, but many have already left because of the fighting.

About 360 evacuees, all but 15 of them Lebanese, were flown into Freetown Friday, bringing to nearly 700 the number of foreigners airlifted out of Monrovia by U.S. helicopters in the past two weeks.

The U.S. embassy is in the Mamba Point area of central Monrovia, which is controlled by a small breakaway rebel movement led by Prince Johnson.

But the Lebanese embassy is in the southeastern Sincor area where there is heavy fighting between the main rebel movement led by Charles Taylor and the troops of President Samuel Doe held up in the executive mansion.

Lebanese officials in Freetown said that although the Lebanese embassy was in an area controlled by Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL), heavy shelling was going on around it.

The ambassador had to spend much of his time in a shelter and was often out of radio contact Saturday, they added.

But they said he still planned to lead a convoy of 200 Lebanese through NPFL lines overland to Ivory Coast Sunday.

General Arnold Quainoo, Ghanaian commander of a West African peacekeeping force in Liberia assembled in Freetown, said he would fly back to Gambia Monday to try to meet Taylor, who failed to turn up Wednesday to discuss ceasefire arrangements.

Taylor has so far opposed foreign intervention in the eight-month-old civil war.

"I have to show good faith," Quainoo said.

Ceausescu's daughter freed but fraud investigation continues

BUCHAREST (R) — The daughter of executed Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu has been released from jail, but legal sources say fraud investigations against her are continuing.

Military Prosecutor General Ioan Dan said Saturday the order for Zoe Ceausescu's immediate release was issued Friday, the day her brother Valentin left prison.

Valentin's lawyer said Zoe had also been released Friday.

Valentin, Zoe and other members of the Ceausescu clan are being investigated for "undermining the national economy" by embezzling vast amounts of state funds.

Neither Valentin nor Zoe has been formally charged but government lawyers and other legal sources said the investigations

against them would continue. Valentin's lawyer, Victor Anagnoste, said prosecutors had indicated his client had ordered goods worth about two million lei (\$100,000) from special shops for the political elite, but that he did not know they had not been paid for.

Zoe, 41, is a mathematician with a reputation for drinking and having had many lovers.

Like Valentin and unlike their widely feared brother Nicu, Zoe did not wield political power. But as a member of the ruling family she enjoyed many luxuries not available to most Romanians, among the poorest people in Europe.

Nicolae Ceausescu and his powerful wife Elena were executed on Christmas Day following a popular uprising against

their 26-year rule. Anagnoste described Valentin, scientific head of the Atomic Physics Institute in Bucharest, as basically honest and unassuming.

"He always lived a normal life," he said Valentin, who is in his early 40s, did not use his family ties for personal or political ends, and that it was only after his divorce in 1985 that he began to use the special shops.

Nicu Ceausescu was Communist Party chief in the central city of Sibiu, where he is on trial for genocide.

He is accused of having ordered troops to fire at unarmed protesters during the December revolution.

His former wife, Poliana Cristescu, was released from detention Saturday.

Soviets, Germans agree on essence of unification

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher have said they have agreed on the essence of a document on German unification, and moved on to discuss a comprehensive German-Soviet treaty.

"We are going to change opinions about the future of United Germany and the Soviet Union," Shevardnadze predicted at a joint news conference following their meetings in Moscow.

The new treaty will cover cooperation in the economy, trade, science, technology, culture and Soviet troops stationed in East Germany, Shevardnadze said.

The Soviet foreign minister also said he expects to initial and possibly sign the final document giving up four power control over Germany on Sept. 12 in Moscow, as scheduled.

Shevardnadze and Genscher said they agreed on the essence of the concluding document on external aspects of reunification, although a few final details remained.

Shevardnadze said he expects the other parties in the "two-plus-four" talks to agree with their work.

The "two" are East Germany and West Germany and the "four" are the World War II victors: The Soviet Union, the United States, Britain and France.

Genscher said initialing of the two-plus-four document on Sept. 12 would show that there is no external reason to prevent German unification, which he expects to occur on Oct. 13-14.

Shevardnadze said the document might even be signed on Sept. 12. The four powers and the united Germany then would be

expected to ratify the treaty under their respective constitutional processes, he said.

Genscher said he expects West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl to spell out details for the Soviet-German treaty proposal in a letter to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, which would be sent before the Sept. 12 meeting.

Shevardnadze said the two sides also had agreed on "material and financial concerns regarding the presence and withdrawal of Soviet troops" from East Germany. Genscher said final details will be worked out in meetings between the Soviet and West German finance ministers on Aug. 24.

West Germany has agreed to help pay for the Soviet soldiers' upkeep because the Soviet Union is short of convertible currency, which is necessary now that East Germany has switched to use of the West German mark.

Cost of this agreement to West Germany for the second half of this year is estimated to be 1.25 billion marks (\$780 million).

Genscher also said East Germany and West Germany will issue statements before Sept. 12 on their respective final troop ceilings.

Gorbachev and Kohl agreed at a meeting at a Soviet mountain resort in July on the most difficult issues of German reunification. These included the united Germany's membership in NATO and reduction of its combined armed forces from 600,000 to 370,000 over three to four years.

The Soviets agreed to withdraw their 380,000 soldiers from East German territory in the same time period.

Rocket blasts off with U.K. broadcasting satellite

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP) — A Delta rocket roared into space Friday with a British television broadcasting satellite that will transmit programmes directly to thousands of homes in the United Kingdom.

The unmanned rocket lifted off at 8:42 p.m. (0042 GMT) from Cape Canaveral air force station, nearly two hours late. The delay was caused by thunderstorms and last-minute problems with a computer used to display range data.

The satellite, called Marcopolo 2, was to separate from the booster 28 minutes into the flight.

An on-board motor will put the satellite on its 35,880-kilometre high orbit Sunday.

Marcopolo 2 becomes fully operational in early December. It will enable British satellite broadcasting to transmit at full power over five transponder channels. Only one channel currently is being beamed at full power. The other four are at half power.

An identical spacecraft owned by British Satellite Broadcasting, Marcopolo 1, was launched aboard a Delta rocket last Aug. 27. It was the United States' first commercial launch of a payload into orbit. Friday's launch was

the ninth.

The cost of both Marcopolo satellites and launches is about \$300 million, said Ellis Griffiths, director of engineering for British Satellite Broadcasting.

Marcopolo 2 eventually will be situated over the Atlantic Ocean near the first satellite. Each 1,450-pound (657-kilogramme) spacecraft is expected to last at least 10 years.

British Satellite Broadcasting is the only company in the world that is transmitting television programmes directly from orbiting satellites to homes, Griffiths said. So far, there have been no satellite problems, he said.

"It seems to me to be silly to cover a country like the U.K., or even Japan or a country which has typical terrain, with lots of towers stuck on top of hills consuming huge amounts of electrical energy to transmit to a relatively small population," Griffiths said.

"The easiest way to cover that is with a satellite having high initial cost but very low running cost," he said.

It's not always feasible to mount large satellite dishes in Britain, Griffiths said.

Magellan's pictures show quake faults on Venus

PASADENA, California (AP) — The U.S. space agency restored steady contact with Magellan as scientists marvelled Saturday at the spacecraft's first pictures of Venus, which displayed quake faults, volcanic cinder cones and plains made of lava flows.

"The radar works far better than we ever dreamed it would," said Steve Saunders, Magellan's chief scientist at NASA's jet propulsion laboratory. "The kind of faulting we see would certainly mean there are 'volcanoes'."

The early pictures were obtained during a test of Magellan's cloud-penetrating radar Thursday, hours before the spacecraft lost radio contact with Earth. They will be released Tuesday, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) said in a statement.

NASA officials did not say whether the communications problem would delay Magellan's formal mapping of Venus, which was to have begun on Aug. 29.

Engineers Saturday continued the process of restoring Magellan to normal operation. It lost touch with Earth for almost 15 hours starting Thursday night, then continued to go in and out of radio contact over the next eight hours.

A computer command sent to Magellan Friday night restored steady radio contact at 7:11 p.m. (0211 GMT Saturday).

"We jumped up and clapped," said Tommy Thompson, Magellan science operations manager. "It was just like the home team scoring a touchdown."

Thompson said engineers expected to remain in touch with Magellan except when it swings behind Venus, when it normally is unable to send or receive signals from Earth. As of today, the two planets were 237 million kilometres apart.

Engineers will spend the coming days diagnosing the cause of the communications breakdown and deciding how to prevent it from happening again, Thompson added.

Magellan was deployed on May 4, 1989, from the shuttle Atlantis on its \$744 million mission to make the best maps and pictures yet of Venus. The spacecraft went into orbit around Venus on Aug. 10, after a looping 1.5-billion-kilometre voyage.

Less detailed radar pictures of Venus from other U.S. and Soviet spacecraft and from a radio telescope at Arecibo, Puerto Rico, revealed signs of faults on Venus and also found tens of thousands of volcanoes, although scientists still don't know if any are active.

Magellan's first pictures showed in much better detail regions that intensely faulted, and also "clear indications of a lot of plains are (old) lava flows" fractured by younger faults, Saunders said.

DAR ES SALAAM (R) — T. chants, drum-beating and ululations, Tanzania's first president Julius Nyerere bowed gracefully out of mainstream politics.

Nyerere, admired in the 1970 for his brand of caring Third World socialism, relinquished the presidency in 1985, but as head of Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) the country's sole political party remained a major political force.

"I shall cease to be chairman of CCM at the end of this meeting, but I shall not cease to be a member and active member," Nyerere told 2,000 cheering delegates at the party's annual conference.

Nyerere, 68, handed over the chairmanship of the ruling party to his successor as president, Ali Hassan Mwinyi. He said he

would give Mwinyi, who has steered Tanzania towards a more liberalised economy, a freer hand.

"When I stepped down as president we decided to split the presidency from the chairmanship of the party," Nyerere told the conference. "But we have realised it is not workable. It is for this reason that I step down."

Diplomats said that Nyerere's influence as CCM chairman was enormous and no major decision was taken without his consent and that his departure was good news for Mwinyi.

With socialism collapsing all around him and Tanzania forced into an international monetary fund recovery programme, Nye-

re stayed remarkably faithful to his ideals. He told party workers this week that even if Tanzania opted for a multi-party system it should not abandon in home-grown "self-help socialism."

He maintains many policies adopted after independence from Britain in 1961 were right, but were knocked off course by outside events such as plunging world commodity prices.

Political analysts blame his wholesale nationalisation for plunging the country into economic chaos. Shelves were bare and even the most basic commodities in short supply.

Mwinyi has raised producer prices for coffee and cotton, the main exports, and liberalised trade. Farm production has risen

four per cent annually and industry has undergone a mini-boom.

Nyerere maintains that one of his greatest achievements was the peaceful handover of power. In a continent characterised by violent power struggles and coups, he is only the third African leader in a quarter of a century to hand over power voluntarily.

"In that sense, the man has earned his place in history," one Western ambassador said.

The CCM conference endorsed Mwinyi as chairman — the only candidate — with a 99.9 per cent vote.

"I am going now and will be available for consultation whenever you need me," Nyerere told Mwinyi as the two men swapped chairs.

COLUMN

Prague mayor gives parking offenders a pasting

PRAGUE (R) — Prague's mayor gave parking offenders a pasting Tuesday — by sticking huge warning posters to their car wind screens with extra-strong glue.

The Czechoslovak News Agency (CTK) said Mayor Jaroslav Koran personally stuck the posters to the front windcreens of about 20 cars parked illegally in the city centre. Victims included a senior aide to Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel, Karl Schwarzenberg, whose car stood on a pedestrian crossing, the agency said.

The posters carried a polite message from Koran telling the car-owners they were wrongly parked and an advertising slogan extolling the bonding properties of the glue. Koran told CTK his action was the start of a crackdown on the large number of drivers who parked illegally with impunity because Prague did not have the trucks to tow their cars away.

Chicago art institute admits loss of painting

CHICAGO (R) — Art Institute of Chicago officials, who could not find a Georgia O'Keefe painting in 1970 to loan for an exhibit, have now admitted with embarrassment that East River From the Shelton is lost.

"Frankly, the recollection of the painting as lost from the museum is long overdue," said art institute Director James Woods. "We are acknowledging that unfortunate fact now that we have failed to find it during a recently completed inventory of the museum's 20th century paintings and sculpture collection."

The 12-by-36-inch (30-by-90 cm) oil painting, completed in 1926 when O'Keefe lived in New York with her husband, photographer Alfred Stieglitz, is worth between \$250,000 and \$500,000, the institute said. It depicts the view of the East River from the couple's rooms in what was then the Shelton Hotel.

Alzheimer's drug found ineffective

DENVER (AP) — A study concludes that the only medication approved for treating Alzheimer's disease is useless. Hydergine, the 11th most prescribed drug in the world, neither helped nor harmed the patients in the study of 80 people conducted in Denver by scientists at the University of Colorado Medical School.

The findings of the study, the most extensive U.S. attempt to evaluate the drug's effects, were reported in the latest issue of the New England Journal of Medicine. Hydergine is the only drug approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for treatment of Alzheimer's, an incurable brain disease that slowly robs its victims of the ability to function. The drug supposedly reduces memory loss and other symptoms of dementia. "It's a useless drug," said one of the study's authors, Dr. Christopher M. Filley, assistant professor at the medical school. The study, begun in 1985, was paid for by the Sandoz Pharmaceuticals Corp., which has manufactured and marketed hydergine worldwide for more than 20 years. The drug costs patients about \$700 a year.

Sheikh loses shirt at gambling tables

CANNES, France (AP) — A wealthy Saudi Arabian sheikh, known for his fervour at the gambling tables, lost 84 million francs (\$16 million) in a month of bad betting at the Carlton Club, the French press reported Thursday. Sheikh Eymann, described as a counsellor to Prince Faisal, lost 65 million francs (\$12.4 million) in just four nights between June 15 and July 15, the French news agency, Agence France-Presse, and others quoted reliable sources as saying. His total losses over the month represent two-thirds of the 130 million francs of receipts taken in by the luxury Carlton so far this year.

The newspaper Le Parisien said the sheikh, hoping to recover some of his losses, then played the tables at the Casino de Monte Carlo, in the nearby principality — only to lose 30 million francs more (\$6 million).

"He came regularly every three or four nights to the Carlton Club and played the tables at the same time, with bets of up to 2 million francs (\$380,000) each time," the paper quoted a witness as saying. The reports said Eymann, who lost 80 million francs in 1985 at Cannes Palm Beach casino, was able to make immediate payment of only 60 per cent on the new debt.